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ODE TO SPRING.

BY A MEMBER OF THE BAR.

Whereas, on certain boughs and sprays,
Now divers birds are heard to sing,
And sundry flowers their heads upraise;
Hail to the coming on of spring!

The songs of those said birds arouse
The memory of our youthful hours,
As green as those said sprays and boughs,
As fresh and sweet as those said flowers.

The birds—aforesaid—happy pairs—
Love 'mid the aforesaid boughs enshrines
In freehold nest; themselves, their heirs,
Administrators and assigns.

Oh! bust-ulerm of Cupid's Court,
Where tender plaintiffs' actions bring—
Season of frolic and of sport,
Hail, as aforesaid, coming spring!

A CHAPTER OF HORRORS.

The Illinois Insane Asylum---Frightful Cruelties Practiced on Patients---Sickening Details of Torture, Brutality and Suffering.

The frightful abuses practiced in private insane asylums have been exposed in several American and English works of fiction, but the public generally have been apt to believe accounts coming through such sources were exaggerated by the imagination of the writers. Occasionally, however, well authenticated facts have gone to prove that no coloring of romance could exceed in shocking ghastliness the revelations of reality. Lately, circumstances have brought to light some scenes and incidents in the interior economy of the Illinois Insane Asylum, and such another chapter of horrors could scarcely be found outside the records of the Spanish Inquisition.

Within the walls of that terrible building, given over, hopelessly, helplessly, to the tender mercies of a gang of brutal, bestial doctors and keepers, hundreds of poor demented beings have languished through years of torture and indignity until death kindly came to terminate their sufferings. From various sources the truth is gradually coming out, and the details already published are so sad and sickening as to make one almost doubt the possibility of their occurrence, were not the evidence in the case thoroughly sustained and irrefragible. There is proof positive that the unfortunate inmates were, for the slightest offences—offenses, be it remembered, committed in a condition of utter irresponsibility—subjected to the most cruel and revolting punishments. Think of a delicate woman consigned to the fiendish discipline of the "screw room;" and the case is one that actually occurred. The wretched victim was fitted with a closely fitting waist or "jacket," with sleeves coming below the hand and sewed up, having a single loophole through which a strong cord might be passed. Her arms were then crossed in front, the hands being drawn tightly behind her, she was then thrown violently upon the floor, face downward, her clothing was removed, and then she was *beaten until her flesh was a mere jelly.*

With what were called refractory or obstinate patients the indescribable agony of the cold bath was resorted to. The patient was taken to the bath room, tied hand and foot, plunged into cold water, held under until almost strangled, for a moment removed only to be again and again submerged until life was nearly extinct.

A lady, employed in the asylum for three years and a half, writes to a female friend that one of the physicians instructed the attendants how to choke patients without leaving fingermarks! From another attendant we have the following story of devilish malignity vouched for:

"An Irish attendant discovered a patient of intense health resting on her bed in the day time, in disregard of a rule of the house to keep the entire rooms are allowed. To the peremptory and insulting order which followed, she replied in the same word of self-defence. This was too much! The Irish attendant is not to be answered in that manner! She *seizes* her roughly and drags her upon the floor with extreme violence. The patient is roused and defends herself, or attempts it. We are summoned to the attendant's assistance, and find her—a small and heavy woman—resting her whole weight upon the invalid's body, with her knees upon her stomach, and with the patient's head as hammer, the fierceness of her hair serving as convenient handles, *pounding the floor with all her Irish might.* After explanations and interlocutions, we get for reply the assurance that the offending victim has got what she deserved, and I must to beat it out. Help me jacket her till I get satisfaction out of her. Then on with the jacket, tied the poor creature's arms behind her, dragged her across the hall to the room, tied each leg to the lowest rod to the bars, tied her knees together, and then seizing her by the hair, again began pounding the bars as at first, she punished by the shock to the muscle was fearfully effective; every blow gashed the scalp and spirted blood over the wall and the floor and her own person. A great splash fell upon a plate of food one of us chanced to be holding."

Mrs. Packard, who, though perfectly sane, was, through the machinations of some of her relatives, immured in this horrible place, in a published account of her experience, says:

"Patients are often choked until their faces are black, and their tongues hang out of their mouths. A lady of refinement, of pure and virtuous character, and a tidiness remarkable for the instincts of a true woman, *before being here thirty-six hours, was stripped naked in the presence of the entire corps of males, and laid upon her back on the floor. Dr. ——— sitting astride her naked body with four attendants applied the strap to her quivering limbs!*"

We had thought that the system of coercion and chastisement had been virtually done away with, in public asylums at least. Rose colored reports had led us to believe that those whom Providence had afflicted with the loss of reason received, at any rate, as much of care and kindness as their vacant wandering minds could be brought to appreciate. Illinois has undeceived us. We congratulate that highly civilized and christian State on the possession of an institution, which is at once an indelible blot upon the reputation of the country and a burning shame upon the very name of humanity.

French and Italian Red Republicans.

A Paris letter says: It has come to the knowledge of the French Government, I have reason to believe, that the Carbonary, which, as a society, was dead for some years, is now being reorganized, and the caution shown in reference to the brother of the executed Orsini, is therefore quite intelligible. The police are just at present exceedingly active in their surveillance over strangers. It is not a little curious to watch their movements. Young men in Paris, of small pecuniary means, of ability, and of unknown antecedents, are frequently approached by M. Martini, the chief of the French secret police, with offers of money and information. The bait has a hook in it, and the disinterestedness of Martini is well understood. There are several hundred Poles now living in the Quartier Latin, who are supported by the police. Exiles from Poland, who are unable to obtain their own livelihood, or whose efforts in that way are sufficiently remunerative, are all on the list of Martini. Students get twenty francs a month, Colonels, twenty-five francs; and the highest amount paid is to those who have served as generals, who receive thirty francs a month.

In this way the French Government maintains control of the most dangerous class in the capital—highly educated but needy adventurers.

For once the interests of French and Italian republicans are identical. It will serve the cause of Mazzini, who is now in London, and afford the "relief" a pretext for an attack on the empire if the general strength is used in Rome. An insurrection by the Roman people and an invasion by the emigrants from without will occur, it is confidently stated by parties actively engaged in that cause in the Eternal City, within a month. Now, the Emperor having promised to prevent such a calamity from falling on the Holy Father, he must of course send another army of occupation to protect him, and this, it is believed, will not be permitted without the matter being argued behind Parisian barricades. Therefore Italian carbonari and French republicans are working hand in hand.

THE HULL OF THE ALABAMA.—The correspondent of the New York *Herald*, writing from Cherbourg, says: The hull of the Alabama, sunk three years ago, in her fight with the Kearsarge, has floated in about two miles nearer the coast than where she went down, and where her remains now lie firmly wedged among rocks, in fifty fathoms of water. No attempt has ever been made to raise her, and as she now lies in French waters this could not be done without the permission of the French authorities. A short time ago this permission was applied for by a ship builder here, and this application being referred to the Minister of Marine, it was refused. It is doubtful, however, whether she could be raised, and even more unlikely that it would pay to raise her, if she could be. All articles of value in her, including the large stock of chronometers, which Captain Semmes amused himself by keeping in sight and motion in his cabin as trophies of his prowess, were, it is well known, taken off the Alabama on the night before the fight. Would it not be an interesting matter for the United States Government to trace up the progress and fate of these same chronometers plundered from her unprotected citizen sailors!

THE PARIS *Debats* says of the Exposition, that it would seem as though the sole thought of the Commission had been to "encrust" the affair, as the commercial slang goes—that is, to make it yield as much money as possible to the shareholders. Nothing, indeed, has been neglected to pique curiosity, and real industry seems to be only a pretext, so completely does it disappear amid the strange exhibitions which surround it.

A PARIS correspondent of the New York *Tribune*, in order to give his readers an idea of the size of the exhibition building, asks them to imagine a structure 180,000 yards square, set in a park three times that size. As this makes the building cover an area of 32,400,000,000 square yards and a park in proportion, we submit that it is asking too much of the imagination.

NEW YORK AND PARIS FASHIONS FOR MAY.

What to Wear and How it is Made.

From our Fashion Correspondent.

NEW YORK, April, 1867.

Summer fashions are always pretty and always attractive. The thin fabrics and lovely delicate colors are in keeping with the tender beauty of the freshly blossoming earth and the returning sunshine, while the pleasure of wearing them is enhanced by the willingness with which we leave off the dark heavy clothing, which has become intolerable with the fine days.

What is the reason, by the way, that winter clothing is made so heavy? Why can't it not be made light as well as warm? Feathers are light; fur is light, yet both are very warm; and why could we not have goods manufactured for winter wear which would be warm, yet light enough to save the weight which now requires all the strength of ordinary woman to carry. Undoubtedly it will come some of these days. But, in the meantime, women die under the burden of their clothes. A great deal has been said about the unusual beauty and novelty of the dress goods this season, but although there are some that are very beautiful, there are few that are novel.

The importations are, I think, unusually light, and include, as yet, not a single fabric with which we are not perfectly familiar here. We have been promised a velveteen which acquired a sudden popularity a year or more ago abroad, and is moreover, a comparatively cheap material, but as yet it has only appeared in samples, and in a few dresses specially imported by Mrs. August Belmont and two other ladies. It is not at all a heavy fabric, yet it is too warm for summer, so we shall probably have to wait now for it until next fall, when it will be used largely for ladies and children's suits.

There is another English material, which we ought to have here, in abundance, but which is scarcely ever seen. This is serge. It is excellent for traveling dresses—especially to the lakes or the mountains, as it neither shrinks nor grows limp, and is equally serviceable to ladies who live in the country, who have to ride a good deal, and who are exposed to all sorts of weather.

Instead of this, or something equivalent, we have for traveling dresses all sorts of mixtures, pretty to look at, but which soon look shabby. Silky they are and soft, and all right so long as the sun shines, but let a drop of rain fall upon them and they either crinkle up into a thousand minute corrugations or fall into the wretchedness of an old rag.

Remember that anything is better for a traveling or useful dress, than a mixture. A really good, honest cotton dress is far better, and the delicate, light grey *chenes*, tempting little stripes, and other fascinations in silk and linen, silk and wool, cotton and wool, and the like, are all a delusion and a snare.

One of the very nicest materials for traveling dresses, apart from checked walking silk, which is always good and lady-like, is pure mohair; not that usually sold under the name of alapaca, but the genuine article, fine, close, and without any surface gloss. The only goods we have seen of this kind are checked in black hair lines clustered upon white grounds. No temperature affects these goods, they wash like white cotton cloth, and, ironed carefully upon the under side, look quite equal to new. They wear, as old ladies used to say of their knitted stockings, "forever;" but that need not be considered a fault, because, when they have done duty one or more seasons, they are still good to give away.

The light summer silks are all in narrow stripes or small *chene* patterns. Narrow, shaded stripes, or one shaded and the other of the positive color, are very new and very much worn.

Gaze de Chambery has taken the place to a great extent of grenadine. It is very like grenadine, but holds its stiffness better, and being equally diaphanous is quite as attractive and more durable.

Organdies flourish in showy robes and large patterns, which, however, look better in this material than they could possibly in any other. The texture is so thin that a small, uncertain figure becomes absorbed in it, and only succeeds in giving a dismally dirty or greyish tint to the surface, whose exquisite fineness and perfect transparency throw up with fine effect beautiful designs and brilliant coloring.

Nearly all the muslins that are not robed are made narrow at the top of the skirt and with a deep flounce. Cambrics are made up in the same way. The prettiest design in cambric consists of a small leaf-like figure upon a white ground, with an exceedingly narrow bordering to match, which is used for trimming. One, two or three rows of this bordering constitute the heading to the flounce, and the body is made with a deeply pointed yoke trimmed to match. White dotted muslin dresses are very pretty made in this way, with a frill of lace surrounding the yoke.

The latest style of hooped skirt is not a "skeleton," but has the springs woven into a thin cotton fabric. They will wash without injury to the springs and with very little trouble, and are fast achieving a popular as well as fashionable reputation, as they save the trouble of skeleton skirt covers and all liability to accident. Two and a half and two and three-quarter yards are the usual size of the skirts at the extreme base, and four and a quarter yards the whole width of a good and trained dress skirt. Speaking of skirts, we may as well mention in this connection, that when partially gored, they are left almost plain in front, but plaited on the sides and gathered and guaged at the back. We have mentioned this change before, but repeat it at the request of several distant correspondents.

SUMMER CLOAKS AND SUITS.

The short loose *sacs* which are universally worn this season are comfortable, convenient and economical, but they are destitute of elegance. Like the short dresses, they are exceedingly well adapted for street wear, but they are quite out of place in conjunction with a stylish carriage and visiting toilette.

Strange to say there are no made up garments for this season suited to this purpose. The long train of a rich dress requires length, if not amplitude of drapery, and ladies are forced back upon their India and Paisley shawls, until the season comes for guaze and lace *burnous*, which promise to be as fashionable as ever.

A great effort is made to give an appearance of distinction to the new summer silk cloaks by fine and elaborate trimming, but though it is admirable in its way, it is only detail after all, and adds nothing to the grace of outline.

Very narrow folds and *roulonne* of black satin with a fine silk embroidery braid running through the center are the most fashionable description for black silk *sacs* and paletots. Some of these have the addition of lace and some of fringe upon the edge and across the top of the sleeves.

Nearly all are trimmed lengthwise upon the back. Some with lines or narrow folds, commencing close to the back of the neck and widening out into a fan shape towards the bottom of the garments, others forming sash ends, which descend below the edge of the skirt, or form a simple barbe-like ornament for the seams.

One of the features of the new cloaks consists of narrow standing bands for the throat, scolloped out on the upper edge. These are arranged to wear with the narrow lace neck ties, which are now in vogue.

Another feature is the wide flowing sleeves, which it must be said are rather out of place in conjunction with short and close, though not tightly fitting garments. The style most in vogue is straight down the center of the back, but cut in a little upon the side seams. This shapes it a trifle without fitting it to the figure.

A very new idea in trimming, in fact the very latest, is to introduce color into the decoration of black silk paletots. The color is sometimes wrought in embroidery, mixed with black silk or jet. In other designs it forms rosettes or leaves placed at intervals upon rouleaux of black satin.

It need not be said that all these attempts at novelty of effect are in terribly bad taste, and can only have a transient vogue. Black silk paletots or cloaks are never so lady-like as when wholly black. Lace or a fine silk and jet embroidery added to narrow black satin folds or alternating with them, is really an improvement, but patches of color are inartistic to the last degree.

The Polish *sacs* are the prettiest styles in cloth for Spring promenade wear. They are made in handsome light tweeds, and trimmed only with light buttons, chased silver, opal, enamelled or the Italian cameo.

The Breton paletots, described in a previous letter, are the most distinguished for morning and seaside wear. They are made in marine blue and white cloth, and decorated with unique patterns in Breton *applique* embroidery. They will also be favorite yachting jackets, the design, instead of a scapulary and the like, being anchors and other nautical emblems, with buttons to match.

The most admired summer suits are made of delicate *chene*, or very narrow striped silk in two colors, the trimming consisting always of narrow cross-cut folds of silk in the contrasting color. The method generally adopted now is to cut the dress skirt the correct (short) length, and simulate petticoat with the trimming. Sometimes, however, the petticoat is made of white mohair, and trimmed with folds of silk to match the dress.

It may be interesting to some readers to know that there are several distinct shapes in the wide, flowing sleeves. The first and most common of them is *La Juive*, a revival of the old pagoda. The next is the Polish sleeve, which is cut straight and open to the top of the arm; the third is the *Venitienne*, which is open to just above the elbow on the inside seam; and the fourth is the Russian sleeve, which is open on the inside seam, but has a closed military jacket cuff, dangling at the extremity.

INDIA AND PAISLEY SHAWLS.

These two kinds of shawls are always fashionable; always indicative of the social position and good taste of the wearer. Pure Cashmere shawls yearly become more scarce and difficult to obtain—the production being limited and the demand constantly increasing. The price advances with great rapidity, so fast, that a lady recently obtained for her India shawl, which had been worn six years, two hundred dollars more than she had paid for it.

It is not generally known what an immense business is done in the purchase and sale of second hand India shawls. Three-fourths of those which come to this country have been worn in India, England or France, and here again they are bought and frequently sold back again to the dealer at a trifle less, or as in the instance cited above, a trifle more than they cost.

Much depends on some trick of form or coloring which happens to affect the fashion. Sometimes black, sometimes red and sometimes white centers or lines of coloring are the rage, and if the shawl to be sold fulfils that particular condition, and is also fine and in good order it will bring nearly a new price.

Our new nobility are willing sometimes to pay a higher price for an old cashmere shawl, which has been remarkably fine, than for a new one, in order to be able to boast of it as an heirloom (?)—heaven bless them!—when probably any respected maternal ancestor they may have had considered herself well off to own a good plaid woolen one.

A large business is done in such establishments as A. T. Stewart's—in altering and remodelling old India shawls and scarfs, in supplying new centers and fringes of the fashionable color, in cleansing, darning and furnishing the bits to be inserted in new corners for them. He cannot make the entire shawl in this country, but there are girls who can embroider and make pieces or small gores which can rarely be detected even by a connoisseur. A few years ago the price of an India shawl rarely exceeded a thousand dollars, and we have heard experienced salesmen declare that beyond that price it was almost impossible to discover a shade difference in the quality. Now, they frequently reach three thousand dollars and five thousand is not an impossible sum for one shawl for one poor, weak woman's back. One would think it would break under it.

The most distinguished Paisley shawls are now made with black centers and black fringe, and many ladies are having their white centers replaced by black ones, an economical change, when the white ones have become soiled, as they can be taken out washed and used for other purposes, or a price will be allowed for them.

TRIMMINGS.

The newest black veils are simple squares, surrounded by an edge of real lace, the sides cut in slightly, so that the four corners form four points each finished with jet pendants, the weight of which holds the veil in its place.

"Reins," or streamers at the back are as much worn as ever, but they are now in silk, or the material trimmed, instead of ribbons, and the hanging loops are avoided altogether. Upon some very handsome black silk cloaks, they are simulated in embroidery.

The "La Petite" sash is a novelty for very young ladies, to be worn with white Swiss or organdie dresses. It consists of a square bib of blue or pink silk, with long sash ends are added, and is drawn in wide bands upon each skirt behind. Bib and sash are edged with a notched out-ruching of the silk. The bib is fastened upon the front of the body, which is cut low, the same as a big apron.

Gloves for evening wear are now very long, extending far upon the arm. With ordinary evening dress they are a mere affectation. They are intended to form a part of a strictly "Empire" costume, and only with the antique style are they appropriate.

The rounded basque in front, known as the "Free Mason's apron" is now made in a network of beads, with fringe attached, for rich evening and dinner dresses. JENNIE JUNE.

Business of the West---Railroad Freights.

The following are the rates of freights East by the Pittsburgh and Fort Wayne Railroad, to the points named:

From Chicago to	Second Class.	Third Class.	Fourth Class.	Fifth Class.
Boston and Providence	$1 56	1 20	95c	$1 10
New York, all rail	1 54	1 00	95c	1 00
Philadelphia, all rail	1 44	91	45c	90
Baltimore, all rail	1 44	91	45c	90
Pittsburgh, all rail	80	50	30c	50

And these rates, low as they are considered, are said by the Chicago *Republican* to be tending downwards. Freight by the lakes is even more depressed, and is quoted almost nominal. The railroad men complain loudly that at the above rates there is little if any profit for them, and the little coming forward shows very plainly that the West is not thriving, but, like the rest of the Union, is feeling the cost of the rebellion in the payment of high taxes, which chills enterprise. The reports of commercial travelers from the West are bad. Collections are made with difficulty, and Eastern merchants are informed that more goods have been sold than will be paid for promptly.

THE French Emperor is engaged experiments with a new cannon of his own invention, the effects of which are expected to be as formidable as those of the rifled cannon at Solferino, are now going at Vincennes. This gun, carefully concealed from the eyes of the public, and even of the soldiers, is worked by officers. It is of small calibre, of copper, and it is stated that by a system of metallic discs and a tourniquets, (of which the writer says he cannot give a description,) from twelve to fifteen shots can be fired in a minute. It is in reality a system of the needle gun applied to artillery. These experiments commenced six months ago, and were intended to be kept profoundly secret; but in spite of everything, the matter was revealed to Prussia some time ago.

THE disturbed state of our Southern country has added most materially to the natural disposition of our people to seek new homes, and a large emigration has already begun from the South to Brazil. The steamship North America, from New York on Monday for Rio de Janeiro, took out two hundred and forty passengers, mostly emigrants from the South. And it is but a few days since three hundred and sixty left Mobile for the same destination, in charge of Rev. Mr. Dunn. They were chiefly planters and their families, from Texas, Mississippi, Arkansas and Louisiana. A tract of land has been secured for them and others who may join them, some forty miles long by twenty-four wide.

THE charge of the Lord Chief Justice of England in reference to the long pending Jamaica trials, establishes the broad principle that the English law recognizes no means for punishment of even the most atrocious criminals, except by trial by jury, and that the maintenance of justice should always be the grand object of all Government action in the military, as well as in the judicial branches.

CROUP.—Wring a linen cloth—cotton will do, but linen is preferable—out of cold water, fold it so as to make several thicknesses, and place it upon the child's throat and chest, then fold a dry flannel and wrap carefully over it. Warm the child's feet—with hot stones if necessary—and cover with plenty of bed clothes and let it go to sleep; you cannot perceive when it wakes that it has even a cold. It acts like a charm.

TANNING WITH CHESTNUT WOOD has been introduced to the notice of "La Halle aux Cuirs," of Paris, by J. Augetiere, Jr., a tanner at Lyons. He claims that the tanning obtained from this source instead of the bark, makes leather of peculiar tineness, uniformity and excellence of color, and superior quality in all respects as compared with the best oak tanned.

THERE are more English than French visitors to the Exposition. Americans are few and far between, angel-like; occasionally you hear the familiar nasal as you pass along the corridor, but, although there are some thousands of Americans now in Paris, they seem to keep shy as yet from the Champs de Mars.

THE INDIANS.

Gen. Hancock's Speech to the Cheyenne Chiefs and Their Reply---War Imminent ---Brutal Treatment of a White Girl by the Indians---Their Subsequent Flight and Pursuit.

THIRTY MILES FROM FORT LARAMIE, April 15.

According to previous invitation from General Hancock, fifteen chiefs of the Cheyenne or "Dog Soldiers" came to camp last night, ostensibly to hold a council, but chiefly that General Hancock might impress on their minds the important necessity of keeping to the strict letter of their treaties. Our officers were dressed in full uniforms, and presented a fine appearance. The Indians were magnificently dressed in gorgeous blankets, their faces painted and their bodies bedizened in all the glory of the Indian toilet. General Hancock, after all were seated around the council fire, addressed them:

"I told your agent some time ago, that I was coming here to see you, and that if any of you wished to speak to me, you could do so. Your agent is your friend. I don't find many chiefs here; what is the reason. I have a great deal to say to you but I want to see all the chiefs together. I wish to say it all at once. But I am glad to see those chiefs that are here. To-morrow I am going to your camp. I have a boy, said to be a Cheyenne, whom the Cheyennes claim. We have made a promise, in which we pledged ourselves, if possible, to find this boy, and a girl, who were somewhere in the United States. We have found the boy, and here he is, ready to be delivered to his nearest relative who may call for him. I will leave him at Fort Larned with the commander. He will deliver him up to them. The girl is near Denver. I have written for her, and she will no doubt be at there, either to your agents, or to the Commander at Fort Larned for delivery to her relatives. You see the boy has not been injured; the girl will be delivered by us, also uninjured. Look out that nine captives in your hands, have been restored to us equally unharmed. I tell you these things, now, that you may keep your treaties. Now, I have a great many soldiers, more than all the Indians in the country. The Great Father has heard that some Indians have taken white men and women captives. He has heard that some of the Kiowa Indians are trying to get up war to try to hurt the white man; that is the reason so many soldiers are coming. I intend not only to visit you here, but my troops will remain among you to see that the peace and safety of the plains is preserved. I intend that no white man in your camps. The innocent and those who are truly your friends must be protected. If we find hereafter that any of you have lied to us, we will strike you. In case of war we shall punish whosoever befriends our enemies. If there are any white persons who have captives, white or half-breed, you must give them up safe and unharmed, as they are now. I have collected the evidence of all outrages committed by you, so that your agents can look into the matter, and tell me who are guilty and who are not. I don't want to hear any lies. I know many Indians want to fight. If so, we are here, and are ready for war. If you are for peace, you know the conditions. If you are for war, then look out for consequences. Your agent tells me that you love Indians who have friendship will not save you from the anger of your Great Father, if we go to war. If my friendly hand is extended to you, and you accept it clean hands, we will treat them as brothers, and we will separate them from the malcontents, and protect them. Whenever you are ready for peace, the innocent may escape the war, which will be waged against the guilty. We are building railroads and military roads through the country; you must not let your young men stop them; you must keep your men off the road. These roads will benefit the Indian as well as the white man. They will be used for supplying and promptly to them. The steam-car and wagon train may interfere with the buffalo, but the whites and Indians that the mails, goods and passengers must pass over the roads. We do not know very well, if you go to war with the whites, you will be able to distinguish friendly Indians from warriors. It is true, you might kill some soldiers, and surprise some small detachments. But soldiers and cannon can be killed—that is not all. We are for; we have plenty more, and as soon as one is killed we have another to take his place. If you take a passenger train, and kill women and children, you will have to settle with the Great Father. Good Indians that don't want to go to war, I shall help them and protect them. If there are any bad Indians, I will help the good Chiefs to put their heels on them. I have given you my views fully, and have commanded more men than any of you ever saw, and they have fought more great battles than you have fought fights. My Chiefs and Soldiers are here. Satisfaction from fighting with your small numbers. They are not my enemies, but friends. I tell you that they are ready to make a just war. Let the guilty then suffer. Stick to your friends and the innocent can travel unmolested. Your Great Father is your friend, and will be if you will let him be so. If a white man behaves badly or does a wrong to you let him be punished. Your Great Father sends me here to tell you this guilty. Great sensation among the Indians.) We can redress your wrongs better than you can. Keep your hands clean. That is my counsel to say. I will await the end of this Council, to see whether there was war or peace. You ought to be for the white man's friend. Come to the white man, and to the Great Father, and he will protect you and cultivate their friendship. That is all I have to say."

Gen. Hancock sat down, and deep silence prevailed in council. The grave, taciturn countenances of the chiefs indicated deep meditation. The officers, on their part, kept strict silence. A full lit pipe was then passed, and smoked two or three whiffs, and then handed it around to his compeers. When that important ceremony was completed, a tall chief, with grizzled hair, and a face furrowed by age, and folding his magnificent robe around him, so that he could have the free use of his right arm, extended his right hand to Gen. Hancock, and uttering the word "How," shook hands with him.

Then moving to the center of the council, "Tall Bull," head chief of the Cheyennes, addressed Gen. Hancock:

"You sent for us—we came here. We have made a treaty with our agent, Colonel Wynkoop. We never dictated the treaty. We have no fault to find with our agent told us to meet you here. Whenever you have anything to say to us you can send to us, and we go on any road. When we come on the road your people must not molest us. We are for peace, and are friends with the white man." (A pause.)

"The white man has a mark by which him—we don't recognize him—he must belong to some tribe with a mark. A white man with a mark is a liar and a thief. The antelope—that were plenty a few years ago—are now thin. When they all die away, we shall have to live like the white man. Look at me, and we will be compelled to come into the fort. Your young men must not run off our stock. We are sent us they are, and we live on them. The Kiowas, Comanches, Apaches and Arapahoes are our friends. Let them here and talk with them. You say you are going to your village. I am glad to hear it. I have nothing to say than I have now. I have said all I wanted to say. I don't want to hear lies. I don't want anything or not. They did not tell me they were coming. I have spoken."

Next morning General Hancock moved camp, and commenced his march up the Pawnee Fork to where the Indians were encamped to the number of 1,500. When half way he was met by a body of Indian chiefs, and with them the Cheyenne and Sioux nations. They marched in line till they were within one hundred and fifty yards of the expedition. Hancock drew his troops in line, consisting of the 7th Cavalry, and a portion of the 3d Infantry, 7th Cavalry, under General Custer, and one battery. When drawn in line the troops made quite a formidable body, and the chiefs, although bearing a flag of truce, appeared ill at ease. Some of the warriors in the rear kept edging away, and, after putting a space between themselves and our command, started off at a gallop for their camp. "Roman Nose," a fine looking chief, and magnificently dressed in a captain's field uniform, drew near the commander, with a choice and select body of chiefs and warriors. Gen. Hancock asked him, "Why do you draw your young men in line?" "Do you wish war, and are you for war?" To which Roman Nose replied, "No, we do not want war, if we did we would not have come so close to your shooting wagons." Hancock then introduced Gen. A. J. Smith as the chief chief, and as the one who should be left with his soldiers when he went back, and said, "I want him to be respected and obeyed as the great chief." Roman Nose informed Gen. Hancock that he intended to march to their camp and have a "big talk" with their principal chiefs. About two P. M. we reached their village, which was composed of about 300 lodges, and camped within half a mile of it. Toward night three chiefs came in, and informed the General that their squaws and papooses had gone and scattered over the prairie. He asked them if they could not find them and bring them back? They said they would try, and departed, seemingly for that purpose. One of the interpreters, having, probably, some business in their camp, went to the village, but immediately returned, and informed Hancock that the village was empty. The Indians had gone, taking with them everything of value, but had left their wigwams intact. A personal examination satisfied us that they must have been in a great hurry. Dog soups had been cooked and were ready in the pans, buffalo broiled and buffalo rump roast, dog heads baked, and, in one or two instances, we saw a dish a perfect confounderation of everything—metal, bone, pups's ribs, roots, herbs, and leaves of plants, all cooked together in camp kettles. Dogs lately slaughtered were laying near some of the camp fires, entrails taken out, and were probably undergoing the process of washing when the village became panic stricken. The troops were under arms all night, and, early this morning at daybreak, Gen. Custer was sent with the 7th Cavalry in pursuit. Hancock intends to burn up the village to-day. Before leaving they ravished a white girl, and other wise shamefully ill-treated her, and left her in the camp to die. She is only eight years old.—*New York Tribune Correspondence.*

The Threatened War---The Result.

A Paris letter glances at the subject as follows:

It is the universal belief here that Prussia or France will have Luxemburg, and that there must be war for it.

There is a wide field for speculation as to its result, with the certainty that its commencement by France would find Russia on all practical purposes, into one nation, with the strong probability of an alliance between Russia and Prussia, England maintaining, if possible, a neutrality.

Fifteen days only the weak and broken reeds of Austria and Italy to lean upon for aid; Prussia, with eight hundred thousand men ready to be put in the field, and France in a state of incomplete military transition, with internal dissatisfaction daily increasing—France, it seems to me, is in a bad condition to go to war, as it seems that go to war she must or abandon her position in Europe.

Paris is in an unquiet condition. The Bourse is fearfully agitated. Ten thousand tailors on a strike are complaining of low wages and the high price of provisions. Laborers generally are terribly grumbling at the latter fact. Tradesmen, shop, hotel and lodging house keepers are disappointed at the result thus far of the Exhibition, and fear that it will prove a dangerous elements at work in Paris. Prompt and continued successes might calm them; but reverses would certainly render them more to be dreaded.

Europe seems to be upon the verge of a general conflagration, and prudent men are already making their preparations for it, in the firm assurance that it must, ere long, break out in lurid flame.

Of the fifty-two counties in Alabama sixteen have negro majorities, and in the whole State the Montgomery *Mail* estimates that if all the whites voted they would exceed the blacks by only 11,492. But the new law, it reckons, will exclude at least 15,000 white voters, giving the colored voters a majority of nearly 5000 in the State. And though they will not all vote one way, the Huntsville convention has proved that neither will the whites all vote together. The Radicals and loyal leaguers in Alabama claim 50,000 white votes.

Rev. James W. Hunnicutt.

The Richmond correspondent of the Chicago *Tribune*, in giving an account of the late Radical Convention there, and a description of the more prominent participants in the proceedings, speaks of the Rev. James W. Hunnicutt as follows:

He is a remarkable man in many ways, and interesting as the target during the last twelve months of an amount of abuse from the Richmond papers which would have overwhelmed many less lucky Radical. He is a hard-shell Baptist minister, I believe, with more liking for political warfare than for preaching, and I presume he has had his fill of the former in his desperate campaign here, almost alone in a rebel city, socially ostracised, with weak-kneed friends afraid to speak to him, publishing a paper which few white men dared read, and besieged by poverty as well as by his enemies, close to the verge of starvation. Knowing all this I have a respect for the man, though he is one of the swearing ministers of the Parson Brownlow school, and scatters his speeches over with blasphemies which fall innocently enough from his tongue, but must mortify the corrupt his hearers. He has been called a demagogue so often by the press here, that the slander has gained credence where it should not have been heard, and the New York *Tribune* has penned him of fanaticism and bitterness; so I think it due him to say that as far as this Convention has shown he has kept himself in the background with a modesty rarely found in public men, and that in all he has said his counsels have tended to moderation and conciliation.

Whatever else is true of Mr. Hunnicutt, it must be said him that he was always faithful to the Union and that he never for the first moment hesitated. Just prior to the secession of Virginia, and the firing on Sumter—the event which precipitated the rebellion—when the writer of this paragraph was making his most willing exit from the city of Charleston, where he had been spending some months, a deeply interested spectator of passing events —we traveled with a Virginia gentleman from the border of South Carolina to Richmond. Of course there was but one topic, and on the part of a large majority of the numerous travelers there was a sullenness that no one could fail to understand—the lowerinff presaging the convulsion which shortly after involved the whole country. Hunnicutt then was the same Hunnicutt he is now. Not only did he avow his Union sentiments, but he was unsparing in his denunciations of the undeveloped traitors who filled the cars. He would give them no peace, but from one end of the train to the other he hunted them out to denounce the unparalleled wickedness they were premeditating. Not only did he denounce and expound the true doctrine, but he prophecied. He foretold the consequences that would follow secession; the desolation which would cover the South; the utter ruin of every man who linked his future with rebellion against the government, and the vengeance of heaven they would surely draw down on their heads. All the way from Wilmington to Richmond, and the next day from Richmond to Fredericksburg —the home from which he was afterwards mobbed and where his printing office was destroyed—he poured his hot, sharp words into the ears of—for the most part—unwilling listeners. There were few who, if they agreed with him, ventured to express themselves. The last we saw of Mr. Hunnicutt was after he left the cars and stood with his carpetbag in one hand, vigorously gesticulating with the other, sending after the train as it moved off, his denunciation of all traitors and his most vehement protestations of loyalty to the Union—a faith to which he has been true.

Political.

The Democracy of Bedford county have instructed their delegates to the State Convention to cast their votes for Hon. George Sharswood, of Philadelphia, as their candidate for Judge of the Supreme Court.

It having been announced that Hon. J. Glancy Jones, of Berks county, had gone to Georgia on business, the Reading *Journal* says he "has gone South on a 'stumping tour,' to make speeches to the colored citizens of African descent with a view of winning them over to the Copperhead faith." The *Journal* thinks it probable that he will find it a good deal harder to pull the wool over the eyes of the colored brethren, than it is to perform the same feat with the Democratic masses of Old Berks.

GNAWING A FILE.—Wendell Phillips is throwing his whole energies into the unprofitable task of abusing General Grant. He is one of those men who must bite and snap and snarl at something—and he snaps and bites spitefully. If it be some scrupulous Indian, such as old Red Jacket, cheers from inherent rottenness, so much the better for his rhetorical teeth; but, if such as this cannot be had, throw him a file and he will gnaw upon it with a calm persistency that would challenge admiration did it not involve so many elements of what eventually comes to constitute a nuisance. On Tuesday evening last Mr. Phillips delivered his oration, or lecture, or whatever he calls it, on "National Affairs" at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, and on occasion to relieve himself of a tremendous quantity of bile at the expense of the Nation's greatest soldier. He cannot forgive Grant for not being a full blooded Indian, and Mr. Phillips's organization, patience is a quality incomprehensible, and "continence of action or ideas is transformed by the peculiar operation of his mental faculties from a virtue into a crime. The fault is not with Gen. Grant if he appears to Mr. Phillips an enigma. He is no enigma to practical, common sense men of the world. To them his simplicity—which to Mr. Phillips is sinister mystery—and the discretion which keeps him out of the seething, troubled pool of politics—which to Mr. Phillips is moral cowardice—are the strongest points of his character. Gen. Grant knows very well that the nation is in no such perilous strait as to require a revolutionary remedy, and he is not the man to apply such a remedy. Mr. Phillips is not, too, in spite of the fact that the profits of the company have actually increased in that time.

The writer avers that in addition to gross mismanagement, certain parties are interested in depreciating its stock with the view to bringing it up. To this he adds:

Another reason for the decline is the probability of a strong opposition organizing up. It is seen that while as yet no general system of opposition lines have been established, combinations are forming of less extensive are already constructed or in process of construction over the territory occupied by the Western Union, and it is not improbable that at no distant day these lines may be consolidated into an effective and damaging opposition.

THE Chicago *Tribune* says the Eight Hour movement in that city is more complicated with the question of outside competition than it is even with the question of wages. There are few articles of manufacture produced here that are not also brought here for sale from Eastern establishments, where the Eight Hour movement has not taken effect, and is not likely to. This "competition," continues the *Tribune*, "while advantageous to the Western buyer, is severe on the Chicago producer. There is no way to prevent it, nor would it be desirable to prevent it. Yet it is mathematically certain that in these branches of industry the Chicago manufacturer cannot compete with the Pittsburgh, or Philadelphia, or Cleveland manufacturer if he loses two hours per day in the operation of his machinery, while they do not." The same paper remarks further, if Chicago manufacturers cannot compete then with those of Eastern cities, "they will necessarily remove their capital and business to places where the conditions of production are at least equal to those with which they are compelled to compete."

GOVERNOR THROCKMORTON, of Texas

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1867.

We are glad to know that the cause of Protection to American Industry is to be actively prosecuted, and that there is to be a meeting of its supporters in New York early in May. The Free Trade Leagues throughout the country are untiring in their efforts, and thus far have met with too much success. The capitalist and the laborer have an equal interest in protection, for without it there will be prosperity for neither. Here, at least, there is common ground, and nothing, we are sure, will prevent them from working together.

The Republicans of the country, we are quite certain, will regret that the Hon. Thaddeus Stevens has felt it to be his duty to dispute either the faithfulness of the labors or the soundness of the doctrine of the Hon. Henry Wilson, now on the stump in the South. So far as they have come to the eye of the public, we are confident the speeches of Mr. Wilson have been quite generally approved; least of all do we suppose the fact that they do not urge confiscation and terms other than those contained in the acts of Congress, will be deemed good ground for denouncing the Massachusetts Senator.

The letter of Thaddeus Stevens, dissenting from the line of speaking by Senator Wilson in the South, and declaring for confiscation and the imposition of further terms on the South before admitting them into Congress, is receiving no support whatever from the Republican press. Those presses, we observe, which have been among the warmest supporters of Mr. Stevens are most outspoken against the spirit and purpose of his letter. The Chicago *Tribune* attributes it to the fact that "Mr. Stevens is very old and is just recovering from a severe illness." The *Tribune* says further:

> Meantime the "remarkable fact which can but astonish all thinking men," as Mr. Stevens says, is, that he, the pretended leader of the "front in the work of reconstruction, is the first No. Congress, and practically himself against the law of with Jenkins. Sharing place himself side by side and Blacks, and the Blacks, united rebels of the South who seek to defeat the will o.

A statesman for President, in the estimation of "Veteran Observer," in the New York *Times*, is what the country needs. This opinion is probably shared by a great many people; just as is that which avers that the national debt should be paid without embarrassment—more easy to suggest than to accomplish. "A statesman of broad views, of Christian principles, of kindly temperament," continues the same writer; but he leaves the question in a state of gone too far for retreat. They have virtually challenged each other as to which shall be considered supreme among the nations of the continent, and, until that question is decided, war is inevitable, even though, for certain reasons, it may be temporarily postponed.

The Revenue Department has devised an instrument for detecting whisky frauds, whereby manufacturers will be compelled to pay the tax on all the fluid they make. So much for the money consideration—very important, no doubt, and, withal, nearly related to a certain moral aspect of the subject. But if the quality of the fluid manufactured could be ascertained and all but the very best destroyed, nearly, if not the entire moral ground would be covered, and little would remain to be done; unless, indeed, the manufacture of whisky were confined to medicinal and mechanical purposes. No doubt it is very important the Government should get the taxes—for the money is needed. But the lives of men are precious, and if the Revenue Department will invent an instrument that will save them as well as the money, by insuring as much certainty as to the quality as the quantity of whisky made, we think it will be found a state of things has been introduced into the country that will do more towards paying the national debt than any Revenue measure yet devised.

SALUTE THE FLAG.

One of the best little things—its meaning and consequences are not little—that have occurred under military regimen in the South, is General Sickles's stopping a firemen's procession in Charleston, S. C., and obliging it to carry, and every man in it to salute the United States flag. It is not only proper, but it is necessary, to put an end to the persevering endeavors made by bad and evil-designing men, to insult and disparage the Government. In this view of the case, we entirely approve of General Schofield's admonitions to the Richmond *Times*.

There is a limit, even in ordinary times, which indignities toward civil government should not be allowed to transcend. But in these times, and among a people whose respect for the Government is so slender, and whose recent political criminality has been so great, no insult, by word or action, should be allowed to pass unnoticed or unreproved. The late rebels may require some schooling to get them back to an appreciation of the Union and the flag, from which a generation of false and ambitious leaders alienated them, but under such schoolmasters as they have now got, they will learn at least not to insult the Government, and not to ignore the Stars and Stripes.

CHOOSE THE BEST.

Until we reach the ideal perfection of Plato's Republic, or of the Utopia of Sir Thomas Moore, we shall always have some demand made on us for forbearance toward public functionaries and prominent political men; some of our official agents and representatives will take the liberty of preferring their own interests and wishes to ours, and some will have the unfortunate habit of forgetting the promises they have made and the instructions they have received. And consequently their constituents will be under the painful necessity of soundly berating them, or, which is by far the more sensible method of relief, of putting other men in their places.

A considerable proportion of these disagreeable collisions, however, might be avoided, if offices were filled with a strict reference to the public good, and not as a favor extended to the incumbents of them. In the former case the most suitable persons would be sought and chosen, and their official action would be directed to public benefit. But if offices are dealt out as rewards for party service, the interest of the incumbents is made so prominent, above the public good, that it need not occasion surprise if some of them with a single eye to that object, quite lose sight of all public ends and obligations.

It ought not to be given up as a hopeless effort to get true and faithful men as legislators. The seed has not run out nor degenerated so far as to preclude hope. But the people must make the beginning, by raising a decided will against every aspirant to office, who is not of fair political fame, not simply as a partisan, but in the broader field of patriotism, intelligence and propriety. There is no lack of such men, if they can be induced, for the public service in official stations, to resign for a time their private modes of life. Let the work be properly commenced, and persistently accomplished.

THE NEGRO IN POLITICS.

The negro has, in fact, never been out of American politics, but formerly it was rather his condition than himself that set people by the ears, because his condition, as a slave, was inseparably connected with certain modes of farming, with manufacturing interests, with commerce, *with conscience*, and so made him the occasion of party arrangements and sectional legislation, which have always modified our American politics. But the negro was never in politics personally till now; and now he is in, and no mistake. Parties are recognizing him as an element. He is above par in the political stock market. Democratic politicians are following in the scent of the negro vote in the Southern States, too eagerly to have the fear of the Irish vote of the North before their eyes.

But the problem to be worked out under the new regime is, to determine whether the negro has capacity, and whether he can acquire the necessary skill and adroitness for the political field. He appears, thus far, to open out well. Wade Hampton has developed a colored politician worthy to be coadjutor with himself, in the political campaign. A Democratic or Conservative journal, in another quarter, is enlisted under the capital and energy of a colored person. But perhaps the most surprising illustration yet given, of the rising political prestige of the dark race, is the case of J. H. Forsythe, who figured so prominently and creditably in a late convention in Mobile, that he was supposed, from the newspaper accounts, to be the Hon. J. Forsythe, long known in Southern politics. The latter gentleman has, therefore, issued a card, to correct the mistake, stating that he was not present at the meeting, though he approved of its proceedings. It seems then that the colored politician has made such attainments in political knowledge and tact, as to be mistaken, by those who had not ocular evidence to the contrary, for the old sinner in politics, Hon. J. Forsythe. The two Forsythe's agree in politics, though they differ in color, and the colored one is so good a manager at a conservative meeting as to be mistaken, out of sight, for the white one. Whether the Hon. J. Forsythe's card presents more prominently his own fair complexion or his dark namesake's political shrewdness, may be a matter of doubt.

HARD ROAD TO TRAVEL.

The old slavery politicians are practicing in an entirely new field, and appear to be badly embarrassed in the work. They are trying to make something out of the negroes for their political purposes, but find themselves embarrassed by the fact that they lose whites, by the operation, faster than they gain blacks. The Richmond *Enquirer* utters a caution on this point, which also shows how zealous the effort has been to secure the votes of the negroes. The caution is in these words: "That we engage in no wild chase after the negroes who do not intend to be friendly with us." And this is accompanied by the honest confession, "We have lowered ourselves in some cases, in pushing our kindness upon them." Finding all this lowering and this kindness in vain, the *Enquirer* naturally grows spunky, and says, "They are not to be conciliated, and we are full able to defy them—let them take their course, and let us recognize them in the character of enemies, which they choose to assume."

But the same class of politicians have sweet talk for those of the blacks who will listen to it, who are addressed and spoken of as "The sensible and reasonable of the colored people," who are to be "encouraged" and "recognized as friends." The policy evidently is to create divisions among the blacks, which is a delicate operation, because the flattery addressed to the blacks makes also a division among the whites. Hence the endeavor to divide the blacks is accompanied with a passionate appeal to the whites to be united, and this enforced with all the terrors associated, in the excited imagination, with the triumph of Hunnicut and the negroes. After all, as we have said, the old slavery politicians are made miserable, by beholding the lines of party becoming well defined and broad among the whites faster than they are among the blacks. The "old massa" finds politics a hard road to travel, among the colored citizens of African descent.

To philosophical outside spectators, this "chase after the negroes," as the *Enquirer* terms it, in order to get their votes, when associated with the many a "chase after negroes" under the Fugitive Slave Law, must appear highly suggestive. Nay, it must strike the persons themselves, who have had the experience of both kinds of chasing, as more than a magical change, to have been wrought in less than seven years. At the beginning of the septennial—yes, after the middle of it, "the negro had no rights which a white man was bound to respect;" at the end, to-day, the old slave owners are *lowering themselves*, in some cases, to obtain the negro's vote!

NOW IS THE TIME.

To do what? Go to the country to live? Yes, if you have got a home there, or employment, or money to buy a place of living and labor. If not, the next best thing is to stay where you are, work diligently with mind, muscle or skill, according to your calling; save every dollar and dime till you can go to the country, and then go. There are places where a home can be secured, and comparative independence, with an outlay that a skillful workman can save in one or two years. And they are not out of the way, forlorn places either. In the splendid and rapidly populating States of the West, a pleasant, healthy home, surrounded by eighty acres of good tillable land, can be purchased for what the rent of a house in a dingy back street here will cost in six years.

We have often endeavored to inculcate economy on our working people, by the motives drawn from such a prospect. If less money is made by farming than by manufacturing labor, there is more saved, and with more individual freedom and independence. The experience of the past few months is calculated to make thinking men aspire to independence of the entangling alliances and associations, which some find it convenient to resort to. And now, that work is to some extent resumed—as far as the condition of the markets will admit of—there is need to be counseled to thrift of every kind of labor, to practice economy with reference to securing a home in the country—a blessing that labor can hope for in our land more than in any other—and property of their own, for the employment of their strength and skill.

"A Crisis in the Oil Regions."

This is the title of a forty page pamphlet, issued by John Ponton, Titusville, in behalf of the oil producers of the oil regions. The author argues that the low price of oil has not been brought about by the law of supply and demand, but that the producer has fallen a prey to the schemes and "bear" transactions of the Eastern operators. He gives the cost of sinking wells and operating them, and the average production for six months (the average life of wells), and shows at present prices an actual loss in the prosecution of the business. He gives the total production of the oil regions at 3,130,670 barrels, an average of 8,557 barrels per day, and claims that there was a deficiency of 2,480 barrels refined oil in the United States on the 1st of January, 1867, thus proving that the enormous stock on hand which has been claimed does not exist in fact. The remedy he proposes for the protection of the producers is tanking the oil, until the demand shall rise to compel higher prices. The pamphlet is full of suggestions to oil men.

On the subject of tankage, the Titusville *Journal* says:

> The amount of iron tankage is now over one-half million of barrels. This fact alone shows that what we should look for in relation to the future price of oil must necessarily take place. The disposition of large owners is such that they have determined not to store all their oil until a fair price can be had, and with half a million barrels safely stored now, another half million of tankage will place the oil market absolutely under the control of oil producers and speculators, who have a direct interest in the welfare of shippers. We give the following statistics, which will be found to be very nearly correct:
>
> | Places. | Barrels. |
> |---|---|
> | Titusville | 50,000 |
> | Miller | 17,000 |
> | Shaffr constructing | 20,000 |
> | Reed Farm | 20,000 |
> | Egbert Farm | 20,000 |
> | Petroleum | 26,000 |
> | Story Farm | 13,000 |
> | Tarr Farm | 22,000 |
> | Oil City | 125,000 |
> | Oil City constructing | 25,000 |
> | Reynolds | 5,000 |
> | Oleopolis | 45,000 |
> | Tidioute | 135,000 |
> | Total | 501,000 |

Matter for Reflection.

Mr. Hepworth Dixon, in his recently published book about this country—while he makes some absurd mistakes, as any Englishman only a few months among us might be expected to do, proves himself to have been a close and conscientious observer, and one desirous of gaining information, rather than of finding ground for censorious criticism. In speaking of the women of the United States he refers gravely, and not without a certain feeling of shocked surprise, to a fashion among the more refined classes, which, he quaintly says, would, if followed to its natural conclusion, soon leave America without any baby shows, or, indeed, without any Americans at all. He relates a conversation he had with a lady of Providence, Rhode Island, who coolly and calmly put the question to him in this way. She said:

> "A woman's first duty is to look beautiful in the eyes of men, so that she may attract them to her side and exert an influence over them for good; not to be a household drudge, a slave in the nursery and the school room. Everything that spoils a woman in this respect is against her true interest, and she has a right to reject it, as a man would reject an impost that was being laid unjustly upon his gains. A wife's first thought should be for her husband, and for herself as his companion in the world. Nothing should ever be allowed to come between these two.

Mr. Dixon ventured to ask the lady, her husband sitting by, whether children do come between father and mother, saying that he had two boys and three girls of his own and had never suspected such a thing. "They do," she answered boldly; "they take up the mother's time, they impair her beauty, they waste her life. If you walk down these streets (the streets of Providence) you will notice a hundred delicate girls just blushing into womanhood; in a year they will be married; in ten years they will be hags and crones; no man will care for them on the score of beauty. Their husbands will find no lustre in their eyes, no bloom upon their cheeks. They will have given up their lives to their children."

If such a fatal domestic policy as this prevails to the extent Mr. Dixon was led to believe it does, the matter is a serious one indeed. The evil surely cannot be so prevalent as he was led to imagine.

Murders for Money.

The Philadelphia papers are concerned—and with good cause—about the succession of murders, all marked by similar attendant circumstances, that have occurred in and near that city within a few months past. As many as seven are mentioned, in most of which the victims were aged and poor women. The motive in all these cases was evidently money, and yet the circumstances of the persons murdered were such, that only a small sum could have been expected, and in some of them only from four to eighteen dollars was actually obtained. It is certainly remarkable and alarming, that human life should be held, by some of the race, at so low an estimate. The crimes referred to were not committed under sudden impulses of passion. They appear to have been deliberately pondered and planned, for the sake not of immense gain, but of the mere pittance that poverty is able to hold.

The *Enquirer* closes its remarks on the subject with the somewhat familiar and trite reflection, that "there must be something wrong in society, that such deeds constantly occur." Undoubtedly. And some of that wrong, it is not difficult to discover. There is the depravity that has been attributed to the human race from time immemorial. And there is the mania for money which has never been more powerful or prevalent than at the present time. And there is the raging appetite for intoxicating drink, which a tax license system affords facilities for forming, and which requires only money for its indulgence. Besides this, there is, in society, a horde of principles adverse to sound morals and to proper training for good citizenship. Loafersism and laziness, vicious recreations, and criminal pleasures debase men in society and prepare some of them for such horrid deeds as have startled the people of Philadelphia so often of late. Yes, there is something wrong in society—a good many things.

Ladies in the Streets.

An incident, more natural than agreeable, happened lately to a lady in our eastern metropolis. While the gentleman with whom she was walking paused to speak a few moments with a business friend she slowly walked forward, pausing and looking into the store windows. It happened that a detective was on the look out just then and there, for a female pickpocket, who had been practicing in the neighborhood, and presuming this lady to be the person, proposed to her to accompany him to the station house. She, alarmed, immediately joined the gentleman with whom she had been walking, and the matter was satisfactorily explained.

On this the *Evening Bulletin* gives the following judicious hint to ladies, for which we hope they will be duly grateful:

> "The incident suggests a useful hint to ladies, concerning their deportment and appearance in the street. With our free American manners, there are thousands of young ladies who frequently expose themselves to the suspicion of being almost anything but what they really are, by their 'loud' dressing, 'loud' conversation, and 'loud' style in the public streets, and at places of public amusements. The rigor of good English society, which imposes such stringent rules for the costume and conduct of young and unmarried women, may be excessive and open to some objections; but there can be no doubt the opposite extreme of license indulged in by a portion of what is called the fashionable society of our Americans a purely accidental one, would serve to suggest a good rule for the general guidance of our fair pedestrians."

High dressing for the street is objected to by many ladies for the reasons alluded to above, and by still others as indicating that their opportunities for drawing room display of elegant attire are limited, and by others from an inherent good taste. But there is a sufficient number, it appears,—in Philadelphia, if not in Pittsburgh,—to elicit the above extremely gentle hint.

Legislative Black Mailing.

In describing the systematised corruption in the New York Legislature, the *Times* states the facts as they are applicable to the Pennsylvania Legislature with so much clearness and accuracy, that we have only to change the locality to obtain a perfect picture of the reality at Harrisburg. We quote:

> "But we assert that, whenever bills are brought forward involving money—bills which it is for the pecuniary interest of individuals or companies to have passed, there are scores of members in both houses who regard their votes as merchandise, belonging to the price of their votes for those bills. They will vote for them if paid for it—they will vote against them,—each man making his own bargain and receiving his pay in his own peculiar way. Sometimes it is a check, sometimes a 'ring,' of which some one man, inside or outside the body, is the agent; sometimes it is a certificate of voting as he directs, asking no questions upon payment; sometimes both legislator and lobbyist attend the operation when the work is done. This outside man, sometimes a banker, sometimes a broker, sometimes a lawyer, sometimes a mere speculating man, he makes the bargains with each of the party, receiving both legislator and lobbyist compromised in 'watching the bill,' counts the House, finds the number of votes required to secure its passage, buys them at the market rates, and then listens calmly to the eloquent denunciations of the 'corrupt lobby,' which fall from the lips of the injured innocents whose votes he has just paid for at so much a head. And these are the men who denounce lobbies and lobbyists. Political abolitionists are ignored in these business transactions. Neither party can come into Court with clean hands to accuse the other."

The full force of the old Moorish proverb that "curses, like chickens, come home to roost," was never better exemplified than in the case of the suddenly converted politicians of the South, who are now straining every nerve and every particle of conscience that still pertains to them, in their efforts to persuade their enfranchised brethren of African descent that they are and always have been and ever will be the best friends of the colored race. Reminiscences of their previous records rise up against them, like "ghosts that will not down," at every turn. Emerson Etheridge, of Tennessee, for instance, was badly taken down the other day, when trying to blarney an audience of intelligent freedmen, by their reminding him that this is not lately as 1865 he had in a public speech exclaimed: "Negroes are no more free than they were forty years ago, and if any one goes about the country telling them they are free, shoot him; and these negro troops, commanded by low and degraded white men, going through the country, ought to be shot." It is said Mr. Etheridge did not receive the reminder with particular relish. It rather interfered with the effect of the brilliant rhetoric of which he had been delivering himself.

Senator Wilson's campaign through the Southern States appears to create almost as much excitement as General Sherman's. The large crowds have listened to him, some with delight and some with infinite dissatisfaction and disgust. He has been vigorously abused by some of the old-time political hacks, but the common people have given good attention and hearty approval to his utterances. The prospect is that very decided benefits will accrue from his mission, that the minds of the people will be discharged of a huge amount of error and prejudice which have been cultivated among them by the secession politicians, and that a strong organization will be eventually effected in favor of the Union and liberty. Other speakers will no doubt follow, and the entire region, desolated by false political teaching, be sown with good Republican doctrines. And the crop, so new to that region, will probably flourish and produce abundantly.

It is something new in our country that while offices need men and men want offices, there should be some offices in the anomalous condition of vacancy for several months. But perhaps it is better thus than that offices should be filled with unsuitable persons, or, what is still worse, that they should be held and used by the executive hand to be distributed as largesses to mercenary or obsequious partisans. The prostitution of patronage, as it has been sometimes done, is an inconsistency, as well as a wrong, while we have statutes against bribery and corruption in elections. Its tendency is to produce the very evils which these statutes are intended to avert. And the checks that have been placed on the exercise of political patronage, although attended with some inconvenience and occasionally by party alienations, may be expected to produce a salutary effect on parties and election affairs.

From London to Paris.—Says a Paris letter, I believe that the facilities are such that a third class passenger can come to Paris and return to London again, for considerably less than a pound, and the French government has made it an especial care to provide meals and lodgings on the very lowest possible terms for those of the working classes who come to see the Exposition. Some of the empty government barracks are given up to this object, and different builders have entered into contracts to build temporary frame houses, to furnish them, and to charge one franc a day to the laborers who patronize them. In the same way meals are provided; a good wholesome dinner of soup, meat and vegetables is to be had for a franc, and an evening meal for something less; so that for three francs (sixty cents) a day, a laborer may live here a week very comfortably.

There are some queer inconsistencies perpetrated in the endeavors made to get up national and international sensations as side-shows to the Paris Exposition. In the refreshment business these are specially manifest. Thus the best lager beer is sold in the Spanish restaurant, while in the Munich saloon, both landlord and waiters are thorough-bred Frenchmen. In the English arrangement short ribs and sirloins very badly cooked are called "rosbif," and the attendents are all Germans. In the Russian rooms a *dame de comptoir*, dressed like a Mascovite peasant girl, exchanges badinage with customers in the purest of Paris accents, and imitation serfs answer your call for *caviare* with a "*Voici M' sieu*" whose fluency at once betrays the native. Humbug seems to be the presiding genius in every department of this most egregious of Napoleonic failures.

Some mathematician has been figuring up what the acquisition of territory has cost our Government since the year 1800, with the following result: In 1803, Louisiana was acquired from France, for $15,000,000; in 1819, Florida, from Spain, for $5,000,000; in 1848, California, New Mexico and Utah, from Mexico, for $15,000,000; in 1854, Arizona, from Mexico, for $10,000,000; in 1867, the Russian purchase, for $7,000,000—or a total of $50,000,000. To a proper understanding of these transactions the present value of the acquired territory becomes necessary. For what sum of money could the original owners—or anybody else—buy it now?

Governor Andrew's argument in favor of a license law has drawn out a letter from Hon. Gerritt Smith, concluding as follows: "I wish you not to suppose that in my going for government shutting up the dramshops, I go for its prohibiting the sale of all beverages containing alcohol. If there are alcoholic liquors which are not maddening, the government has no more right to interfere with the drinking of them than with the eating of too big a dinner. If, as I sometimes fear, lager beer does but stupefy, instead of frenzying, then I would not have Government lay hands upon it."

Reports as to the extent of preparation being made in the South for the next cotton crop vary somewhat; but from a balance of testimony we should judge that a large area will be planted. Parties recently returned from that section state that with favorable seasons the crop will reach three millions of bales, their judgment being based upon the general tenor of reports as to the extent of land being placed under cotton. It is, however, as yet entirely too early to form any estimates upon which parties connected with the cotton trade can base any definite action.

Fast Time Between New York and Chicago.

As the Nothern or Lake Shore lines from New York are exulting over their through train and fast time between New York and Chicago, via Albany and Buffalo, and as we are somewhat interested in the Fort Wayne, Pennsylvania and Allentown lines, we have taken the trouble to inquire what this claim of our northern friends amounts to. For the information of the traveling public the conclusion may be briefly given thus: By leaving New York by Allentown line, at 5 o'clock P. M., they will arrive in Pittsburgh at 9:30 the next morning for breakfast; leaving by the Fort Wayne road they will reach Alliance for dinner and Crestline for supper; at the latter place they can take one of the palatial sleeping cars, and will arrive in Chicago at 5:30 o'clock the second morning—or in thirty-six hours and a half from the time of leaving New York. On the other hand, passengers for Chicago and points west and Northwest of them, by way of the New York Central and Erie Railways, in order to arrive at Chicago at 6:30 A. M., have to leave New York at 12 o'clock M., just five hours earlier than by the Allentown route, and arrive in Chicago just one hour later. Comparing these facts it will be seen that the Allentown, Pennsylvania and Fort Wayne roads have the advantage of *six hours time* to Chicago, and all western, northwestern and Southwestern points. These facts sufficiently attest the claim of our railways to having the shortest and quickest route to the Northwest, and require no comment.

We learn that the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago Railway will commence running next Sunday morning a train from Pittsburgh through to Chicago, in direct connection with the trains over the Pennsylvania Road leaving New York on Saturdays, at 8 P. M., Philadelphia at 10:50 P. M., and Baltimore at 10:30 P. M., arriving in Chicago at 11 A. M., Monday, twelve hours ahead of all other trains leaving New York in the evening. This will really be the only line between the East and the West that presents to the traveler a through continuous route during the entire week. It is well known to the traveling public that the splendid "silver palace" cars of the Central Transportation Company, leaving New York on the morning trains of Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, run through to Chicago, and that they leave Chicago on the same morning trains running through to New York. These cars will be increased to daily service as soon as the cars now in process of construction are completed. It is in contemplation to put on cars to run through between New York and Chicago, leaving the terminal points in the evening, thus making a double daily train through without change of cars.

Elasticity of Human Wants.—The consequences of any kind of wholesale and absolute destruction, if they could be reckoned and placed before us in some tangible shape, would afford material for curious study. They are, however, seldom realized in so direct a way as to be clearly and unmistakably appreciated; hardly ever, indeed, except in the case of a country ravaged by armies of invasion, or a city suddenly rendered desolate by fire. The Southern States, for example, and Portland, Maine, by the two agencies of war and conflagration, had the consciousness of severe loss brought so closely home to them as to enable them to make something like a practical calculation; but the Northern States, generally—though nearly half a million of their young men lie buried in Southern soil or are so maimed for life as to be rather a burden than a help—have never sustained any suspension of industrial activity that the community at large seems seriously to feel; and, though taxation has been nearly quadrupled since 1861, there does not appear to have been any abatement of our national prosperity, or any sense of exhaustion or oppression on the part of the people. Reflection on the subject is suggested by a paragraph from an English paper, which states that the cattle plague, in the British Isles alone, has, first and last, caused the sacrifice of more than three hundred thousand cattle. Now, the question arises, what was the effect of this positive annihilation of so many oxen and cows on the average supplies of beef and milk? How was the deficiency made up; or, if not made up, in what ways was public suffering or deprivation resulting from it manifested? Who can explain the working of that most mysterious of all the faculties of human nature—its adaptation to circumstances—its marvellous elasticity?

The great aquarial horrors for which Chicago was so famous before the construction of the great lake tunnel are being almost paralleled in Detroit. The water pipes of that city are found to be swarming with small lizards, and the agitation consequent on the discovery is tremendous. Scientific men are divided in opinion as to what effect they may have upon the consumer. One party holds that the gastric juices kill them within a few minutes after they are swallowed. The other party insists that they grow in the stomach and produce a number of disagreeable effects. It is said the consumption of whisky has largely increased since the fact of the presence of these reptiles has been established. People are afraid to drink the water alone.

The newspapers on the line of the Hudson River, New York Central, Lake Shore and Southern Michigan Railroads, and the managers of that route, are making an ado over the fact a single car, for night and day travel, has been run from New York to Chicago in something like good time. Now what is so great a novelty and success there, is and has been a common thing over the Pennsylvania (Allentown route) and the Pittsburgh, Fort Wayne and Chicago roads; and the public has been enjoying the benefit of the arrangement for several months. With the palace cars, the new arrangement for fast time, and the excellence of the general management, this route will continue to defy competition. With the traveling public its merits and advantages are appreciated.

Uniting the Lakes.—A number of wealthy American gentlemen, mostly Pennsylvanians, have offered to undertake the building of the ship canal, connecting the lakes with the St. Lawrence. It is to extend across Canadian territory from Lake Huron to Lake Ontario, and will cost an enormous amount of money, but the advantages to be derived therefrom, and the immense amount of freight that will seek that channel of conveyance will render it one of the most profitable undertakings ever attempted in America.

Death of Clerk Benedict.—A. W. Benedict, Esq., Clerk of the House of Representatives of Pennsylvania, whose death was announced by telegraph Monday, it is stated, started the first daily penny paper ever published in Philadelphia. He faithfully performed his duties during the winter, and left Harrisburg for his home in Huntingdon at the close of the session in good health, expecting to return in a few days. He was seized with erysipelas, and death resulted on Sunday. Mr. Benedict was an admirable executive officer, and highly respected by all who knew him.

The grand army which is marching over the plains under General Hancock, specially deputized to put an end to the Indian troubles, about which so much has recently been made, seems to be regarded in many well informed quarters as a colossal job. Commissioner Bogy, for instance, declares that a small force for the chastisement of one small detachment of aggressive Cheyennes was all that was really required. He thinks that so extensive a demonstration as has been made, will only unite the Indians, and bring about a general and desperately contested war.

An invention of inestimable value to all places where bituminous coal is generally used as fuel has lately been patented in Paris. Some scientific genius there has discovered some chemical preparation which, combined with jets of steam, he uses for scouring the exteriors of brick or stone buildings, making them look as good as, if not better than, new. Any one obtaining the agency for Western Pennsylvania might safely rely on realizing a fortune out of Pittsburgh and Allegheny alone.

The Chicago *Tribune* says large sales have been made, within the last few weeks, to dealers in Denver, and that several other merchants of Denver are now in Chicago purchasing their supplies. To these statements it is added:

> The completion of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad to the Missouri River, and the rapid extension of the Union Pacific Railroad to the mountain regions, has completely revolutionized the trade of the Platte Valley and the Territories of Colorado, Montana, Idaho and Utah. Heretofore St. Louis has enjoyed almost a complete monopoly of this large and rapidly increasing business, but henceforth Chicago, through her superior railway connections, and the enterprise of her wholesale dealers, must command nearly the entire trade of the mining districts of the Far West.

A small sensation has been created in a limited religious circle in New York by the discovery that two clergyman there both delivered sermons, word for word identical, on the same day. The inference is that they both, by a singular coincidence, made the same selection from their libraries, or that they purchased from one professional manufacturer of the article, who "manifolded" on them.

The Democratic platform has been arranged, with free trade as one of the principal planks. We commend this to the brethren of the party. Their hearty support is expected, and no questions asked.

STATE ITEMS.

Postoffice robberies in the interior of the State have become very frequent recently. The Postoffice at Lockhaven, Lycoming county, was broken into Thursday night, and the letters rifled of their contents and then destroyed.

The Hollidaysburg *Whig* is opposed to circus exhibitions, and calls upon the clergy to preach against them and the people not to visit them.

Upon the arrival of Hon. Schuyler Colfax, at Warren, on Tuesday, he was met at the depot by a number of prominent citizens of that place. C. C. Wetmore was to be one of the reception party and was driving a fiery team of horses, which ran away, threw him out of the buggy and killed him. Mr. Wetmore was a highly respected and influential citizen, and his untimely death awakened a most painful and profound sensation.

The Scranton *Register* says that five hundred buildings are in course of erection in that place.

The Grand Jury of Mercer county last week presented the county jail as insufficient and insecure for the confinement of prisoners, and therefore recommended the Sheriff for confining male and female prisoners in the same room. They need a new jail immediately in Mercer.

All applicants, for license to sell liquor, before the Bedford Court, who were shown to be men of intemperate habits, were promptly rejected. The rule created immense alarm among applicants to keep lager beer saloons.

At the late quarterly meeting of the Berks County Medical Society, Drs. Mathews, Beaver, Ulrich, Stearly and Brobst, were elected delegates to the State Medical Society, which meets at Pittsburgh in June next. Drs. Wallace, Reeser, and Nagle were chosen delegates to the National Medical Association to be held at Cincinnati in May next.

Last week, Wm. Wadsworth, a lad of Mercer county, at a distance of ninety yards shot a large white swan on Slippery rock creek. The bird measured seven feet from tip to tip.

Berks county designs making an effort to secure the location of the Eastern Model Farm within its borders.

Governor Geary retains in his hands a bill which fixes eight hours as a day's work, in the State, in all cotton, woolen, silk, paper, bagging and flax factories, and the same shall be the case in all contracts for mechanics and day laborers.

Monday afternoon last, the vicinity of Columbia, Lancaster county, was visited by a severe rain and hail storm, accompanied with thunder and lightning. The storm lasted about half an hour, and it is feared, did considerable damage to the fruit. Some of the hail stones were about the size of hickory nuts, and the ground was so thickly covered that they could be gathered by the handsful.

A correspondent of the Tionesta *Press* says: On the night of April 16th, two robbers made their appearance at the house of John Ulenberger, Harmony township, Forest county. One of them caught the old man, who is seventy-three years of age, by the throat, threw him on the bed, and stood over him with a knife, while his companion broke open a stout German chest, and got about $3,000. They made good their escape.

During a fracas in Cranberry township, Venango county, a few days ago, a man named Moon was shot by another named Lafferty. Both were drunk. Moon is dead and Lafferty is under arrest.

There are over one hundred criminal cases to be disposed of at the present term of the Venango County Court. The morals of the oil regions do not seem to improve.

One Wm. F. Eldred, of Rome township, Crawford county, is under arrest, charged with the murder of John Doyle, near Titusville. The principal evidence against him is that he was a rival of Doyle's, and the girl's name is Harriet Matteson. In the examination so far nothing has been elicited to fasten the crime upon Eldred, who is a quiet, inoffensive young man.

A large number of new buildings are going up in Tionesta, the prospect of its becoming the county seat of Forest giving an impetus to improvements. The building for the use of the prothonotary has been completed and the records deposited therein.

The great conflagration at Petroleum Center on the night of the 23d inst., burned over nearly two acres of the central part of the town, and destroyed some fifty-three buildings. The proprietors of the Union Hotel are said, are under arrest, charged with incendiarism. About one-third of the town is in smouldering ruins, and many persons have lost everything they possessed.

Henry Morrison, of Warren, recently ran a raft of lumber from Warren to Pittsburgh in thirty-one hours—the quickest trip on record.

H. L. Richmond, of Meadville, is a candidate for the Republican nomination for State Senator from the Erie district. J. Boyd Espy and William Beatty are candidates for nomination in Crawford county for the House of Representatives.

Harmon Labor and wife, each seventy-eight years of age, died within a day of each other last week, at their residence, near Bloomsburg, Columbia county. They were interred in one grave.

John Reed, Esq., of Pottsville, has been Justice of the Peace for fifty-one consecutive years, having been appointed Governor Snyder in 1816, and re-elected since 1840 every five years. He is now seventy-four years old, and may hold out for some years yet.

The strike in the Shamokin region, among the coal miners, still continues, and all the works are idle.

Punishment follows close upon the commission of crime in Philadelphia. The grand jury have already indicted George H. Winnemore, charged with the murder of Mrs. Magilton, and his trial was fixed to commence yesterday.

It is estimated that the Susquehanna boom, at Williamsport, contains over 60,000,000 feet of logs. This vast amount of lumber will keep the mills at that place running to their fullest capacity during the coming summer, and will furnish employment to a large number of laborers.

The people of Oil City purpose to make the question of removing the County seat to Franklin the issue of the fall campaign in the election of Representatives, and it seems highly probable that their scheme will prove successful.

The Bishop of this Diocese confirmed at the Episcopal Church in Meadville, on Sunday evening, eight new members. The services were attended with the usual solemn ceremony, and witnessed by a large congregation.

A young man named C. Fussell, of Syracuse, N. Y., died suddenly at the McHenry House, Meadville, on Saturday, from epilepsy.

Bennett and Riley, *alias* Stewart and Hays, who attempted to escape from the cars while being conveyed to jail at Franklin, have been convicted of robbing the office of the Brevoort Petroleum Company at Rouseville, and sentenced to the Penitentiary for a term of eight years.

Joseph Auner was recently blown from the roof of the Glamorgan Furnance, in Lewistown, by some one below putting on steam to blow the dirt out of a flue which he was preparing to clean. He was so badly hurt about his head and shoulders that his recovery is extremely doubtful.

The Harrisburg *Telegraph* says: As the location of the Dauphin County Soldiers' Monument has not been finally decided, a strong feeling is springing up in favor of its being located at Camp Curtin. It is understood that the owner of the land in that locality, Col. Unger, has offered to deed to the Monument Association ground sufficient to accommodate the structure and afford ample surrounding space for ornamental purposes. Such an offer should not be rejected inconsiderately. Camp Curtin is classic ground.

On Monday week, the barn of Mr. Alexander Green, of West Finley township, Washington county, was struck by lightning and burned to the ground, together with a stable which stood close by. A very fine horse belonging to Mr. Green was burned to death. He also lost all his gears and farming implements. His loss on the whole would amount to near one thousand dollars.

Mineral Developments.—The Pottsville *Standard* of last week says: Mr. Theodore McElinny, who is mining black coal on the Mc-Ginnes shaft at Mill Creek, is sinking a slope about one hundred yards north of the shaft, and has struck the outcrop of the same vein. About seventy-five yards further north he has commenced a drift, but at last accounts the vein had not been found there, though several small seams of other ores had been passed through. James P. McGinness & Co., who are sinking a slope on the eastern end of the same tract, about three-quarters of a mile from the McGinnes shaft have reached down about fifty yards from the surface, at an inclination of about eighteen degrees. The are getting out the genuine blackband ore. They dip of the vein increases, and its thickness has increased to about thirty-three inches, with the indication of a good, workable vein. They will soon commence to cut gangways from the slope, when the yield of ore will probably be considerable.

A singular duel recently took place in Berlin between a journeyman silversmith and another artisan. The arms selected were a bottle of sulphuric acid. The arrangement was that whichever of the two adversaries threw the lowest with dice should swallow the contents of the fatal phial. Chance favored the silversmith, who immediately poured out a glass of liquor and handed it to his adversary, who unhesitatingly drank off the liquid, but to the astonishment of his antagonist, instead of falling senseless, smacked his lips and asked for another glass. The seconds had acted on the sensible idea of substituting arrack for the corrosive fluid. The affair terminated in a reconciliation.

Messrs. Ticknor & Fields, the well-known Boston publishers, have issued a circular to the trade, in which they give notice that English re-prints of American copyrighted works, in cheap form, are being sent to this country for sale, and warn booksellers against infringing upon the rights of others, by purchasing the works, under penalty of prosecution.

GRANT—SHERMAN—M'PHERSON.

Interesting Letters not Heretofore Published.

The Joint Committee on the Conduct of the War have just issued their report in an immense volume, containing reports by Generals Sherman, Thomas, Pope and other Generals. The volume contains many documents never yet published, and among them the two following letters:

[Private.]

Nashville, Tenn., March 4, 1864.

Dear Sherman—The bill reviving the grade of Lieutenant General in the army has become a law, and my name has been sent to the Senate for the place. I now receive orders to report to Washington immediately in person, which indicates either a confirmation or a likelihood of confirmation. I start in the morning to comply with the order, but I shall say very distinctly on my arr

CATHERINE.

She was not Kate—but Catherine,
Proud Cabin Fever, by odds;
Her hair, in robes of gold
Lay coiled upon her shapely head—
It dazzled where it glory shed.

She was not tall, and yet her mien
So queenly was and graceful,
Dared nevertheless apart
Its passion's leaves; I feared to scan
How high love's tinged passion ran.

Her eyes were stately in their glance;
While from their fringed eclipse,
A splendor tempered her lips;
And often I would swear she smiled
Unless, as I said, they dimpled.

Her ear-drops were of swaying pearl;
How their pale beauty swung
Again it her dark—then hung
In little troubles of delight
To touch a thing so wondrous bright.

What time I walk'd out thro' the lane,
My orioles gave me
Sang "Catherine" to me;
Then sang with spotless throats, I knew,
To pour such liquid measure thro'.

Besides the brook would lead me on
Where meadow, copse and glade,
With ferny fringing, would
Shook out a brilliancy of spray,
Called "Catherine" as I went away.

I met her where the tiny bridge
Of willow spans the stream—
I trod as in a dream.
She smiled; I knew her unawares,
My heart seemed mounting golden stairs.

Her hands were full of violets—
She stood me where they grew—
"Just like a brooch of blue
They clasp your neck," she said me, look!
Across the bosom of the brook."

She broke a flower for me—I took
Each flower and hand in mine—
O, then love's grafted vine
Shot up full high, and thick, and fast
Flowered its shadow all the past!

She heard me through, and when I paused,
Afraid, her cheek had flown!
She turned away—what shed
Across her cheek a crimson shame
That rippled into deeper flame!

"O! Catherine, my queen!" I cried,
"Look from thy proud eyes down!
Grant me your love or else
She stole one long, sweet glance at me,
"Thou art my King—color over me!"

O! oriole sing on in glee;
Go, sweet south wind, and tell,
And noisy brook as well,
How e'en a queen may conquered be
By love's sweet skill and archerie!

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

Rear Admiral Cadwallader Ringgold, of the United States Navy, died in New York, Monday morning. He was sixty-five years of age, and had been in the naval service over forty-four years. He died of apoplexy.

A dispatch, dated Monday, from Seymour, Indiana, says: About two hundred men entered this town yesterday afternoon and forcibly seized a negro man named Mitchell and took him to the woods and hung him. They also seized two white men, named Stewart, and threatened to hang them. The cause of this violence was the robbery of a store in the northern part of that county, in which these three men were engaged.

A Washington special says: Several prominent persons having been to inquire regarding the ease of Jeff. Davis, with a view to obtain his trial or release without further delay, it is asserted on the very highest authority, that the Government has offered to release Mr. Davis on his own parole, but that he has positively declined to accept his freedom unless the same is given unconditionally.

A *Herald* Washington special says: It is stated to-day by a distinguished Senator, that Mr. Johnson sincerely regrets that any of the Southern States have been so unwise as to attempt to restrain the enforcement of the reconstruction acts by injunction. It is even said that so determined is the President to carry out the measures, that even should injunctions issue from the Supreme Court, he would disregard them. The same authority intimates that by the meeting of Congress next December, the Southern States will be ready for admission, and the great problem of reconstruction will be solved, or at least very near its solution.

General Grant has ordered that a company of cavalry shall accompany a number of Professors from Bloomington, Illinois, on a scientific tour to the western slope of the Rocky Mountains. The expedition will be absent about three months, and will be furnished with transportation and subsistence.

An Omaha dispatch says: The report telegraphed from Leavenworth to the New York *Herald*, under date of April 21st, that General Angur was about to move west from Fort Phil. Kearney with 6,000 troops, that 11,000 Indians were encamped between Forts Kearney and Smith, waiting for grass, to commence hostilities, and General Hancock's expedition being in distress, is pronounced an unmitigated hoax at General Angur's headquarters. Fort Laramie dispatch of the 28th says: The Indians have surrounded Horse Shoe Station, and fighting is now going on. A telegraph supply train was attacked on the 23d instant, seven miles west of Laramie, and all the stock were driven off and the provisions destroyed. No more work can be done on the telegraph line without an escort.

The following additional news from Mexico was brought by the United States gunboat Tahoma, which arrived at Galveston on the 22d inst., from Tampico, April 17: A dispatch had been received in Tampico from Juarez, dated April 13th, which stated that Maximilian and the garrison at Queretaro had about that time attempted to cut their way out but were badly repulsed. The Emperor, it is believed, will surely be bagged. The Tahoma's news from Vera Cruz reports that place invested by the Liberals, with five thousand troops, commanded by Meadow, on the south, and two thousand on the North under La Vega. All access to the city was cut off, and provisions were scarce. The last beef had been killed and meat sold at a dollar a pound.

George Goetz, Samuel Case and Alexander Aulgus were hung in the jail yard of Cincinnati at twenty minutes past one o'clock yesterday, for the murder of James Hughes, in February last.

The Central wood sheds at Syracuse caught fire yesterday morning about five o'clock; 1,000 cords of wood, sheds and eight caboose cars were consumed.

The Louisville *Courier's* Lexington special says: A duel was fought yesterday afternoon at Townsend's, on the Kentucky Central, between Nob Hanson and Noah Alexander, both of Paris, Ky. Five rounds were fought, Hanson was struck nine times, the balls entering his clothes and one inflicting a flesh wound in his hip. Alexander received a ball in his coat. The difficulty was amicably settled.

The contract for laying down the track of the street railway, in Wheeling, has been awarded to Mr. Charles Huthinway, of Philadelphia, who has bound himself to complete it by the 1st of July. The cars are already contracted for, and it is expected that the road will be in running order by the 1st of July.

A convention of American Frenchmen has been in session at Detroit. They passed resolutions in favor of being represented by some of their own nationality in the National Government, urged the preservation of the French language, and the support of French newspapers, and denounced the Canadian Confederation as inimical to Franco-American interests.

The eight hour law is likely to cause trouble at Chicago. The manufacturers object to having their machinery stand idle two hours of the day and demand ten hours from the operatives, offering a proportionate increase of wages, and announcing their intention to discharge all who will not accede to this requirement. Probably one-half of the workmen will accept their proposition, but the others are expected to make a general strike to-day, Wednesday, May 1st.

One of the remarkable results of the reconstruction measure is that whereas original Union men were previously in bad odor with the majority of the Southern people, and so far from being popularly eligible for any position of trust or honor they might have thought themselves happy to be let alone without prosecution, are now eagerly sought out and asked to take office. In South Carolina, for instance, Governor Orr has just issued a circular to the present county officers, asking them to furnish names of competent persons who can take the test oath, that they may be appointed registers and managers of election.

Episcopal Bishop Randall, of Colorado, says that he has found that field, which he supposed to be entirely fallow and neglected, already filled with laborers, and flourishing. The Jesuits had long been at work. Splendid schools and academical institutions are in full operation. State money to the amount of $30,000 has been granted to them. "Most of the Protestant young ladies of Denver city and neighborhood," he says, "are the regular pupils, and the next generation of Colorado bids fair to be educated with as intense hatred to our reformed religion and free institutions as are the bloodtyes of Spain or the peasantry of Connemara."

There is one department of the Paris Exposition where any one desirous of looking out for squalls may safely rely upon finding them. It is a nursery on a large scale, where all the children under three years of age, belonging to the women employed in the building, will be fed and attended gratuitously by a large and competent force of professional nurses. This *kindergarten* is really a kind o' sensible idea, and then it is so thoroughly French. No other people would ever have thought of such an institution.

The imports at New York last week were as follows: Dry goods, $1,336,866; general merchandise, $5,203,954; total, $6,540,820. Included in the entries are the following items: Tea, $921,556; sugar, in hhds and bbls, $820,187; do, in boxes and bags, $298,810; coffee, $420,586; molasses, $250,712; wool, $130,498; fancy goods, $54,118; watches, $54,139; iddies, dressed, $44,659; do, undressed, $209,953; hard ware, $229,270; iron, pigs, $76,922; do, railroad bars, $170,647; steel, $48,259; tin, boxes, $73,906.

Large Fruit Farm.—The Scioto, Ohio, *Gazette*, says: We understand that our enterprising and public spirited citizen, Colonel Sifford, has succeeded in negotiating for 8,000 acres of land in Huntington township, on favorable terms, for an Eastern company that design cultivating fruit on the most extensive scale. Two hundred families will settle upon this tract within a year from this time.

The fire at Cittendon, Kentucky, on Monday night, destroyed Mesonie Hall, Mound's in shop, Radcliff & Mansfield's dry goods store and other buildings. Nearly half of the business portion of the town is in ashes. Loss not stated.

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

A correspondent says of the French locomotives: The engines are poor. They carry a bell and whistle, the former reminding one of the dinner bell of a family of no or three children, and the latter of the penny whistle and the whittle sounds as you go through the tunnels.

Workmen on the Knoxville and Kentucky Railroad, while excavating in Anderson county, a few days ago, found a rich iron-ore bed six feet deep.

The Cincinnati *Gazette* remarks, if it should turn out that there are large deposits of elephant's tusks in the Russian purchase, it would be an important discovery in the way of female adornment. "Asmall piece of ivory," says that paper, "goes a great way in this nutrition, and by placing it on the tip of a parasol it is reduced to great convenience. We observe women and girls making it up the streets, and when they meet each other, and whenever their mouths are not otherwise occupied. Their assiduous application to this sustenance shows that it must contain valuable nutritive properties. And, besides, it keeps up the innocent manners of infancy. We should judge, by the seeming satisfaction, that a supply of parasol tips is as good as a cow in a family."

The negroes of one ward in Washington City have resolved to propose three test questions to all candidates for office. The first requires a pledge of fidelity to the radical Republican party. The second requires a pledge to award public work, without discrimination of color as to the workmen, and the third requires a pledge to support a system of public schools free from any distinction of race or previous condition of servitude.

The Wooster, Ohio, *Republican* says: We hear but one opinion with the farmers of Wayne in regard to the growing crop of wheat, which is that there has not been for many years a better prospect than at present.

The Marietta, Ohio, *Register* says Newhall Wilson, of Adams township, has a flock of sheep numbering thirty-seven. Twenty-nine of these have fifty lambs, and nineteen of them have forty lambs—an average of more than two lambs apiece for the nineteen. All are well and in good condition.

The iron ore mines belonging to G. Rooley, along the Juniata river, near Mount Union, Pa., are said to contain both gold and stiver. An assay proves the ore to contain $6 of gold and eighty cents of silver to the ton of iron.

Milnie Negent, who murdered her little girl at the Union Hotel, Wheeling, a few months ago, and has since been lying in jail there, awaiting trial died about three o'clock Saturday morning. An inquest was held by Coroner Johnston, and a verdict rendered by the jury that death was the result of consumption of the bowels, hastened by her refusal to take nourishment and medicine. There is no doubt that the woman deliberately committed slow suicide by refusing food and medicine.

A Springfield, Illinois, dispatch of the 2th, says the Jacksonville *Journal* of yesterday contains an account of the murder, by hanging, on last Saturday, of one James Hart, a respectable citizen of Morgan county, near Waverly. He was found hanging to a beam in his own barn, quite dead. A fresh cut in the forehead indicated that he had received a severe blow from a hatchet. Suspicion fell on several were former friends, and the appearance of a struggle, footprints, &c., all tended to confirm the belief that he had been murdered. Several persons were arrested upon parties, who are being pursued by the officers.

Cod Liver Oil is extensively manufactured in Boston and Gloucester, though the product of the current year, four hundred barrels, shows a considerable falling off from former years. This oil is put up in vessels of all sizes, from the half pint bottle to barrels, is sold at wholesale at $1 62 per gallon, and is sent to all parts of the Union and to Europe.

A Texas paper tells of a young couple who eloped on horseback, accompanied by a clergyman who was to marry them. The lady's father gave chase, and was overtaking the runaways when the maiden called out to her clerical friend: "Can't you marry us as we run?" The idea took, and he commenced the ritual, and just as the father's pistol fell from the bride's in the clergyman pronounced the lovers man and wife. The father, struck with five dollar fee in one hand and a fifty dollar bill in the other, rode off in high glee, leaving the happy pair to their honeymoon.

It is said that 1,000 boats and over 1,200 men are employed in the New England lobster fishery, representing a capital of $150,000, and using not less than 10,000 traps.

Parton, in his article on sewing machines in the last *Atlantic Monthly*, computes the whole number of machines manufactured up to the close of last year, at 750,000; and the present rate of manufacture at about 200,000 per month.

In the American department of the Paris Exposition, is an army rifle, with the following inscription: "This wagon was built by H. Simons, of Philadelphia, at a cost of $56. Repairs (Black), $7, 1861; was used in the Army of the Potomac until 1863, when it was sent to Nashville, Tennessee; from there to Chattanooga, Atlanta, Milledgeville, Millen, Savannah, Columbia, Fayetteville, Goldsboro', Raleigh, Danville, Buckville, Richmond and Washington City, and is now used by Gen. Grant, through all the campaigns and marches of General Sherman's army; has been in the service nearly seven years, 9 months. Gross weight 1,856 lbs., No. 1, 24 Div., 20th Corps."

The Charleston *Courier* speaking of the prospective European war, says: It is rumored here that numbers of young men, of military experience, acquired in our recent civil war, are desirous of taking service abroad in the war that is expected to break out between the two nations of Virginia officers will offer their services to the Emperor of China.

A Paris correspondent tells a tough story about some tough iron at the exhibition. A piece as long and thick as a carriage pole is tied in a knot like a ribbon, without the slightest crack or flaw. Railroad bars are likewise made pliable without a break. This is done while the iron is cold.

La Liberte (Paris) finds consolation for the failure of the Mexican scheme in the great success attended by Humboldt, which but for the expedition to Mexico would now be in its native country in the convulsions of a revolution, being recommended as the most suitable place—during the month of June—for the conference, delegates, the *Gazette* recommends, should be invited from every city and town on the Mississippi, between Lower Louisiana and St. Anthony, and on each of the rivers tributary to the Mississippi, above the rapids.

An expedition for the exploration of the interior of Greenland was arranged to leave Copenhagen about the 8th of this month. The expedition (which is wholly at private expense) is conducted by Mr. Edward Whymper of Alpine celebrity, and Mr. Hobbs, a young American naturalist and explorer of the Rocky Mountain slopes, who has already twice visited the Arctic regions.

Three Quixotic young gentlemen, of the ages of thirteen, fourteen and fifteen respectively, residing in Chicago, lately started on ponies for the Rocky Mountains, on the "Lookout" for a location for a home for no fault of their parents, but they wanted a little adventure in the woods.

Sheep Shearing Festival — Premiums Offered.

The annual Sheep Shearing Festival, under the auspices of the Westmoreland Agricultural Association of Upper St. Clair and Snowden townships, will take place on the 10th inst. Besides the regular premiums, Col. Wright, of the *National Agriculturalist*, offers the following special premiums:

1. For the best fleece, Buck or Ewe of any age, from a spanish merino, yielding a wool adapted to the manufacture of broadcloth and other fabrics requiring a degree of felting quality. To be cleaned and secured ready for the shears not less than eight entries—an Agricultural Library of eight thousand pages.

2. For the best scoured fleece from a Ram or Ewe of any age, in proportion to its time of growth and the live weight of the animal—not less than eight entries—value of B. Rodgers & Son's Harpoon Hay Elevators and Pulleys, complete; worth $15.

3. For the best scoured fleece of any kind under the rules of the society—one of Gibson's Cloth Wringers; worth $10.

Patents Issued.

The following patents were issued to Western Pennsylvanians from the United States Patent Office, for the week ending April 23, 1867:

J. Y. Smith, of Pittsburgh, Pa., for improvement in steam engine piston.

T. J. Stoutter, of Uniontown, Pa., assignor to self and Henry White, for improved composition for preserving eggs.

Oliver Kaufer, of Mount Union, Pa., for improvement in cultivators.

Samuel B. Ray, of Franklin, Pa., for ticket fastener.

D. L. Farnley, of Rostraver, Pa., for improvement in riddles for land washers.

Samuel Melsom, of Erie, Pa., for improved apparatus for rolling clothes and mangling sheets.

James Edward Thorpe, of Erie, Pa., assignor to self and W. J. F. Liddell, of same place, for improvement in steam pumps.

PERSONAL.

—There is good authority for saying that General Butler will revisit the South, and New Orleans, even, some time in the course of the ensuing summer, with a view of following up the campaign begun by Senator Wilson in Virginia. He says also, people down there are laboring under serious misapprehension as to his views concerning them, and he is anxious to have them corrected.

—Mr. James E. Murdoch, during the performances of Hamlet in the Chestnut Street Theater, Philadelphia, last Tuesday evening, April 23, was seized with a fit of vertigo, which caused him to reel and fall upon the stage. He was promptly restored to consciousness by his physician, and desired to finish his part, but was not permitted to do so.

—Irwin Davis, formerly waiter in a Springfield hotel, is now a San Francisco millionaire, enjoying an income from a single silver mining company of $60,000 to $90,000 a month.

—Mr. Beecher's novel in the *Ledger* will begin soon. The title is "Norwood; or Village Life in New England." The *Ledger* remarks: "It is said that on one occasion, during Mr. Beecher's stay at the West, a committee from the church where he preached, called upon him to remonstrate against his saying so many witty things in his sermons. He replied to them, 'Brethren, if you only knew how much I keep back for you would never think of finding fault with me for what I say.' In this spirit Mr. Beecher keeps back nothing. In it he gives full scope to all his facilities."

—Twenty years have not elapsed since the great Hungarian poet Petofi won popular favor by his interest demonstrations, as a poet and a patriot, against the Emperor Francis Joseph; and, to-day, the same Francis Joseph, now King of Hungary, for whom Petofi fell dead on the battle-field, subscribes a hundred guilders towards the erection of a monument in honor of the poet, and Hungarian newspapers publish a letter from the Emperor, thanking the Jew, Leopold Lowinger, in which she thanks Sir John Bowring for making Petofi known in England—which he has not succeeded in doing though he has published translations, although he may have directed attention towards him so far as to prompt some Englishman to himself to father take a translation of Petofi's fiery songs into English.

—It is related by Mr. C. W. Ring, in a volume just out—in order to illustrate the cupidity of gem collectors, that as the Academician I. Hardoin was exhibiting the intaglio of a gold coin struck to the head of the celebrated amateur, the Baron de Stoach, he all at once missed Michael Angelo's signet, a gem which he had recently believed to be a genuine antique; whereupon, without expressing his suspicions, he privately dispatched a servant for a strong emetic, which, when brought, he insisted upon the Baron's swallowing then and there, and in a few minutes he had the satisfaction of hearing the fine stone into the basin held before the unlucky and unscrupulous gem collector, who, it has since presumed, was shown the speediest way to the door.

—An American named "McCracken," traveling in Europe, found the stigma resting on his name so great that he published a card in *Galignani's Messenger*, disavowing any connection with the McCracken of keyhole celebrity.

—General Kalegri, who was recently dispatched by the Greek government on an extraordinary mission to the United States, is dangerously ill in Paris, and cannot proceed to Washington. He was formerly minister of Foreign Affairs, has been appointed to succeed him. Mr. Rangabe is a Professor in the University of Athens, and is known as one of the best scholars in Europe.

—Twenty Irish Bishops have died since 1822. They left at their death assets of the gross value of $361,867, or more than £43,000 apiece. It must be remembered that this sum is independent of any amount which may have accumulated in their hands for charitable uses during the life time of the prelates with the view of benefiting the Church during the next two years. The late Bishop of Durham once said, died "a shamefully rich."

—Mrs. General Gaines, the persevering and successful litigant, is having built what will be the handsomest residence in New York. Its location is near the Central Park. Its area is 141 by 100 feet. Spacious halls, grand staircases, reception room, drawing room, parlors, boudoirs, library, dining room, chambers, dressing room, picture gallery, theater, ball room, billiard room, kitchens, wine cellar, and everything else are contained in modern variety and luxurious appointment.

—The Philadelphia *Press* concludes a brief notice of Senator Cattell with the following just remark: It was well remarked by an experienced statesman that many a man has sat in the Senate for years without acquiring a the reputation, which within a period of less than ten months has crowned the efforts of Mr. Cattell.

—A Paris letter by the last steamer, written under the full prospect of an immediate conflict, says: The continuance of peace in Europe is regarded as so certain that the newspapers are beginning to look round for their "special war correspondents." The favorite subject of speculation is the probability of the Emperor Napoleon taking the command. The operations would be so very like those of that which he made for the part which he nominally filled in the Italian campaign. The Austrians and Prussians the Orleanist princes are ready to avail themselves of it, and the acquisition of 6,000 or 8,000 men through the peoples look gloomily at him, as they blame him for the loss of many lives which they would have seen on the turf, and it is likely enough he may stake his all in a war.

—The British *Independent* says that Rev. William Thorp of Bristol, England, was so large that in preaching an ordination sermon he had to be hoisted into the pulpit over the side, the door being too narrow to admit him. Curiously enough his sermon was on "The Importance of Physical Training, and Exercise in the Christian Ministry," and he founded his discourse on the parable in which Elisha declared that that enfeebly in by the door is the shepherd of the sheep, while he that climbeth up some other way, the same is a thief and a robber."

—It will be a year on the first of May since George Peabody arrived in the Scotia at New York. With characteristic economy he must have saved at least $4,000,000 to get along during the twelvemonth.

—The Boston *Herald* says: "Perhaps one of the richest men in this section of the State has become completely insane. A few days ago he called upon a subscribes a hundred guilders towards the erection of a monument in honor of the poet, and Hungarian newspapers publish a letter from the Emperor, thanking the Jew, Leopold Lowinger, in which she thanks Sir John Bowring for making Petofi known in England—which he has not succeeded in doing though he has published translations, although he may have directed attention towards him so far as to prompt some Englishman to himself to father take a translation of Petofi's fiery songs into English.

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—The Philadelphia *Mail Gazette* says: "The Duke of Cleveland's estate extends twenty-three miles below the highway, that the property of the Marquis of Breadalbane reaches from the sea one hundred miles into the interior, that the Duke of Sutherland owns half Scotland, and that Earl Fitzwilliam owns 340,000, that one park belonging to the Duke of Norfolk is fifteen miles around, and that the Duke of Sutherland is the proprietor of an entire county in Scotland, stretching from sea to sea.

It is one of the remarkable features of the times, that notwithstanding the extent and terrible energy of government measures during the long war of insurrection, and the political distractions that have occurred since, there yet have been so few changes in the Cabinet officers of the government for the last six years. Such officers have been assailed by a violent party press, their removal has been demanded and urged, and it has been expected in consequence of diversity of opinions about government policies, and yet it has had extremely few changes, and those chiefly for reasons of a private nature. We take this to be an evidence of the wise construction of the Cabinet, and of the prosperous and promising political condition of the country.

Correspondents and others traveling in the South, say that it is a common thing, in almost every State they have passed through, to see white women laboring in the fields. This is one of the most marked and conclusive evidences of an inferior grade of civilization. No women North could be found—unless it were among the commonest class of German emigrants—who would drive ploughs or hoe out corn and sugar.

The popular belief is that the New York *Times* lost heavily in its circulation, on account of the political course of the paper about the time of the Johnson defection. In reply to the assertion of the *Tribune* to this effect, the *Times* corrects this impression as follows:

"The *Times'* circulation has never varied 5,000, beyond the usual variations of the season, during the political vicissitudes of the last two years. Its profits *quarterly* have been more than the *Tribune's* profits during *any* single year. And it was never more prosperous than it is at this present moment."

The Art of Advertising.—On this subject the Louisville *Journal* has the following: "We have been carrying on the Louisville *Journal* between thirty-six and thirty-seven years. During all this time we have known no man of business in the city to fail who advertised liberally. And we have known no one to succeed in any considerable if even in a respectable degree who *didn't* advertise liberally.

FINANCE AND TRADE.

Wednesday Evening, May 1st, 1867.

The payment of the interest on the Five-Twenty bonds of the Government commenced to-day. The amount of these bonds on which interest is to be paid is nine hundred and eighty-nine millions, the interest upon which for the six months ending to-day is twenty-eight millions six hundred and twenty thousand dollars. This is a pretty heavy amount of coin to go on the market at once, and its disbursement will doubtless have an important effect on the price.

—The improvement in the tone of European advices has produced a general recovery in financial affairs. It is taken for granted that a peaceful solution of the difficulties between France and Prussia will be accomplished, and there is little disposition to discount the possibilities of an adverse result.

—The New York quotations of Governments received by Messrs. Ira B. McVay & Co., are as follows:

6s 1881		110¼
5-20s, 1862		107¾
" 1864		106¾
" 1865, May and November		106¾
" 1865, January and July		106¾
10-40s		97
December '64 Compounds		116¼
December '65 Compounds		106¾
July 7-30s		106¾
August 7-30s		106¾
Gold		135¾

—Railroad stocks are advancing rapidly. Bryan's quotations, from the New York Board at noon to-day, are as follows:

Michigan Southern	69¼
Cleveland & Pittsburgh	72¼
Ft. Wayne & Chicago	69¼
Erie	64¾
Chicago & Rock Island	97¼
Chicago & Northwestern	89¾
Chicago & Northwestern preferred	82¾
New York Central	97¼
Reading	103¾

—We notice a change in the banking firm of Ira B. McVay & Co., is announced. The retirement of James P. Hanna is filled by the admission of James C. McVay and W. W. Burchfield. The former is the younger son of the late head of this house, who possesses many of the noble qualities of his lamented father. Mr. W. W. Burchfield is the courteous and efficient gentleman who has so long been connected with this house, and is familiar to its numerous customers. Charles B. McVay, Esq., continues as the leading member of the firm, who has since his father's death managed its business with singal ability. It is now one of the largest and most prosperous banking houses in our city.

—James T. Brady & Co., corner of Fourth and Wood streets, quote United States Securities in New York to-day as follows:

Gold	135¾
U. S. 6s, 1881	110¼
U. S. 5-20s, 1862	107¾
U. S. 5-20s, 1864	106¾
U. S. 5-20s, 1865	106¾
U. S. 10-40s	97
Canada	90
Compounds,	116¼

—The Second National Bank announces a dividend of four per cent. out of the earnings of the past six months.

The Iron City National Bank divides a six per cent. dividend out of the earnings of the last six months.

The Ralston Oil Company gives another dividend of three per cent. This well managed company has never flagged in its profitable career to the stockholders. Its officers may justly be proud of the ability which they have exhibited in their successful management.

—The reduction in the national debt, "in the form of legal tender," in the interval, has been as follows:

	April 1, 1866.	April 1, 1867.
Temporary loan	$1,000,000	
Certificates	62,958,000	
One and two year notes	31,558,900	
Compound notes	172,745,141	$120,028,630
Legal tender	323,740,252	375,111,249
Fractional notes	26,091,263	36,693,193
Total	$618,333,719	$531,833,074

Decrease of legal tender or its equivalent in one year, $271,650,341.

OUTSTANDING 7-30's.

April 1, 1866	April 1, 1867	Decrease.
$605,250,000	$238,650,000	$366,600,000

It will be seen that the Treasury has put into funded debt $271,650,341 of short debt calling for legal tender or bank reserve, and has funded of 7-30s calling for currency at maturity, $236,683,850. It is very evident that the national debt in a form to be converted into circulating money is fast being retired, and that the Treasury is fast approaching the time when the United States notes and fractional currency alone will remain to be funded. Gold-bearing stocks, into which the short debt can be funded, are now 8 per cent. higher than in April, 1866, and there is every reason to suppose that funding in 1867 will be more rapid than in 1866.

—The following shows the totals of the average of the leading items of the Philadelphia Banks for the past and previous week:

	Last Week.	Prev. week.
Capital	$15,575,170	$15,635,150 Inc. $50,000
Loans	31,611,346	31,483,134 Inc. 128,212
Specie	488,508	382,817 Dec. 105,718
Legal tenders	16,552,000	16,387,000 Inc. 165,000
Due from banks	11,564,222	4,646,231 Dec. 82,009
Due to Banks	6,867,066	6,867,736 Dec. 29,931
Deposits	25,862,206	25,837,206 Inc. 24,000
Circulation	15,647,194	15,658,521 Dec. 9,113
Clearings	4,362,000	4,067,000 Inc. 295,000
Balances	3,251,982	3,037,304 Inc. 214,648

—The above comparison of figures show a large falling off in business, the Clearings showing a decrease of $5,100,467, and the Balances one of $2,085,322. There was a small increase of capital, of loans, of legal-tenders and deposits. The specie was further decreased over a hundred thousand dollars, and the circulation slightly, for the first time in several weeks.

MILWAUKEE FLOUR AND WHEAT MARKET.

Special Correspondence of Pittsburgh Commercial.

Milwaukee, Wis., April 30, 1867.

Our letter of the 22d instant is entirely applicable to-day, so far as it refers to the tendencies of our market and the feelings of our dealers; and while we may be classed as the most sanguine, we are not depressed at another by natural reaction, the confidence which has prevailed during the earlier part of the Spring, in the stability of high prices, is not a whit abated. In fact the influences of a "reassuring" operation, added to the natural causes of high prices, has gone up to unprecedented figures, and will, in all probability, remain there or even go higher, notwithstanding the large, now estimated crop, the receipts that have reached the market since the late rise in the Allegheny.

Choice—The sales were not very extensive. Among the transactions of the following kind, the 2 gallon, 1,300 do, 6¼c; 146 do, the 2 gallon, and 500 bbls of gravity at 7c. This would be equal to 11½@12c, barrels included.

Medium Oil—The market was devoid of activity. The sales were on a small scale. Buyers are evidently waiting for lower prices. The only sales reported were, 1,000 bbls standard white, for Philadelphia delivery, all next, buyers' option, at 22c; sales 100 bbls standard white, free on cars at works, at 21c. Other parcels were under negotiation but had not been consummated at the close of the week. Free oil was unchanged as regards prices or demand.

LUMBER MARKETS.

Chicago.

There was considerable activity manifested in the Lumber Market to-day, as the *Tribune* of Tuesday, and in view of the large number of arrivals during the past twenty-four hours, a firmer feeling prevailed and dealers had no trouble in effecting a disposition of their purchases at full figures. "A" or Star-sawed shingles were selling freely at $4 37½, afloat, and $4 50 on track. Extra shingles were in good demand and fully well supported. Cargo sales afloat, since the date of our last report, have been as follows:

Propeller Ironsides, from Muskegon, with 300,000 feet lumber, 3 shingles, 1 lath, at $19; schooner Mississippi, from Muskegon, with 113,000 feet one-eighth strips, balance mixed, at $19; schooner Minnesota, from Muskegon, with 90,000 feet clear, largely boards, and some long joist, all seasoned, at $20; schooner Ben Franklin, from Grand Haven, with 5,000 feet strips and 36,000 feet boards, both seasoned, at $18; schooner Ben Franklin, from Manistee, with 200,000 feet mixed at $18; and $5,000 "A" sawed shingles at $4 50; schooner Ben Franklin, from Grand Haven, with 60,000 feet strips, largely boards, at $20; 60,000 lath at $4 25, and 40,000 feet mixed, at $20; 90,000 lath at $4 25, and 40,000 feet mixed, at $20; schooner Ben Franklin, from Grand Haven, with 40,000 feet common mixed, largely boards, at $20; 140,000 feet common, largely boards, at $17 50; schooner Ben Franklin, from Grand Haven, with 70,000 common dry mixed, at $18 12½; seow South Haven, from South Haven, with 104,000 feet mixed, at $20; schooner Levant, from Muskegon, with 103,234 feet mixed, at $19; schooner Ben Franklin, from Muskegon, with 110,000 feet mixed, largely boards, at $19; schooner Illinois, from Muskegon, with 96,212 feet mixed, largely boards and strips, and the balance scantling, joist and timber, at $19; schooner Ben Franklin, from Grand Haven, with 90,000 feet common mixed at $18, and 50,000 lath at $4 25; seow Planet, from Kalamazoo, with 70,000 feet lumber, one-eighth strips, balance mixed mill run, at $19, — feet culls at $14, and 140,000 "A" warranted, sawed shingles, at $4 37½; schooner Horace, from Holland, with 170,000 "A" warranted, sawed shingles, at $4 37½; schooner E. M. Boyer, from Muskegon, with 84,000 feet strips and mixed, at $19 25; schooner Castelplein, from North Bay, with 90 cords beech and maple wood, at $6 50, and 500 cedar ties at 30c; schooner John Schanks, for Kalamazoo, with 160,000 "A" sawed shingles, at $4 50; schooner Sutherland, from Kalamazoo, with 50,000 feet coarse mixed, at $19; and 30,000 — culls at $11; schooner Tempest, from Muskegon, with 134,000 feet one-fifth strips, balance mostly mixed, at $19; schooner Pauline, from Muskegon, with 90,000 feet coarse mixed, at $19; and 150,000 "A" or Star-sawed shingles on track at $4 50.

Cincinnati.

There is a fair seasonable activity in the lumber market, says the *Commercial*, of Tuesday, without any change in prices at the yards. River rafts are coming in rather more freely, and there is a steady sale of the same, which the retainers are calculating on securing higher figures. Dealers here are not offering to trade at better than $25.

Louisville.

Prices are firm, says the *Democrat*, of Monday. Sales of poplar lumber at $25@30 ₱ 1,000; pine, common, $70@80; second rate to choice, $90@100. Dressed flooring, $60@80 for common to first quality. Shingles, $4 50 per 1,000, and pickets at 16@18c ₱ lb.

Eggs—There is a fair trade in the market, and a dull sale at 15c ₱ dozen. Retail prices are 17½@18c ₱ dozen.

Flour—There has been no change since our last report. Choice brands of spring wheat flour are selling at $14 25@14 50 ₱ bbl, though some merchants are holding for higher figures. The demand continues active.

Rye Flour—We quote from store at $8 00 ₱ bbl.

Grain—There is very little wheat in the market, and the receipts are very small. We have no reported sales. No. 2 spring may be quoted nominally at $2 35@3 00 ₱ bush.

Oats—Market rather inactive. Sales of 200 bush, from first hands, at 58@60c, and from store at 60c ₱ bush regraded.

Corn—There has been no considerable doing, but without change in prices. We quote the best corn selling from store at $1 05@1 10 ₱ bush. Sales of 3,000 shelled at these figures reported.

Rye—There is but little coming to market, and prices are nominally $1 55 ₱ bush, for choice, from store.

Hay—Sales of baled on the wharf at $23 00@25 ₱ ton, and from country wagons at $20@21 ₱ ton reported.

Bacon and Lard—Packers' prices are 15½c for S. C. hams; 14c for shoulders; 11½c for sides and 11c for lard, in tierces, ₱ lb.

Lard Oil—Manufacturers prices are $1 10 for No. 1 and 95c for No. 2 ₱ gal.

Whisky—Market dull. City rectified is quoted at $2 26, and old Monongahela at from $3 00 to $6 00 ₱ gal., as to quality and quantity.

Groceries.

The market for Coffee is weaker in consequence of the decline in gold and an anticipated large crop. Choice lots, however, are scarce and held firmly. Sugar stiffer. Teas have declined a shade, and Japans are much in vogue and selling freely at our quotations. New Orleans molasses are held at 85@$1 00, and are very hard to find at that.

Coffee—Old Government Java, 38c; Laguayra, 27c; Rio, choice, 25c; prime, 27c; good, 26c; roasting, 25c.

Sugar—New Orleans, choice, 14½c; Porto Rico, 13@13½c; Cuba, 13½@13½c; Sugar House, 10c; Granulated, 16¼c; Powdered, 16¼c; Crushed, 16¼c. A Coffee, 15½c; B do, 14¾c; extra C, 14¼c.

Molasses—New Orleans, 90c@$1; Porto Rico, 80@90c; Cuba, 75c.

Syrup—Loverings, $1 10; other choice brands, $1 00; fair to good, 65@80c.

Teas—Young Hyson, common to finest, 90c@$1 85; Imperial and Gunpowder, do, $1 20@2 25; Japan, 90c@$1 25; Oolong, 90c@$1 50.

Rice—Carolina, 11

Weekly Commercial.

SATURDAY, MAY 4, 1867.

TERMS:

One copy, per year.....$2 00
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One copy gratis to the getter-up of the club.

In many parts of the State the Republicans are moving with reference to the next election. It is the proper time and place to begin to apply the remedy for legislative corruption and all manner of unfaithfulness. It is, moreover, the time and the place to make sure of a Free Railroad Law. To secure better things we must have better men; and this is something the people themselves must attend to.

How ridiculous and absurd it is, for those who have not cooled off from the heat of war against the Union, to be perpetually canting and whining about their lost rights and liberties, and railing against the laws, law makers and people of the Union, as though they were not themselves the cause of their own miseries. One feels at a loss for a mode of expression, to do justice to the contempt that he feels for such pitiful hypocrisy and meanness heaped upon such badness.

The parliamentary discomfiture of Mr. Gladstone and his withdrawal from the leadership of the so-called Liberal party, is the political sensation of the day in England, and has created more surprise and excitement than any affair connected with the career of a public man since Sir Robert Peel's famous change of front on the Free Trade question. Mr. Gladstone proved himself weak in the management of a party crisis, sacrificing the main body of his adherents to the noisy clamor of a faction. It is doubtful if he will ever regain the influence that he wielded over the House of Commons, and, indeed, among the intelligent classes throughout the country.

Attorney General Stanbery, in his argument before the United States Supreme Court, last week, in support of the motion to dismiss the Mississipi and Georgia injunction bills—bills brought to thwart the people expressed in acts of Congress—though sympathizing politically with those who initiated the proceedings, used the following language, signifying an important principle: "If there is power in this Court to veto laws which the people consider wholesome and necessary, and instruct their Representatives to pass, it is high time that they should know it; but such a power has never before been invoked."

Public men who have been derelict in their duties or dishonest in their official positions, should be dropped by the people without ceremony, and new men be sought to fill their places. The same general principle, that justly demands the disfranchisement of those who have distinguished themselves as rebels, and of those who have added official treachery to rebellion, requires that persons who have been recreant to duty, who have violated pledges, who have disregarded the will and interests of their constituents, should not be continued in official stations. The people should be on the alert to prevent further trifling with their will in this way.

The "*Old North State*" is a good Union paper published at Salisbury, North Carolina; that is, good for the South and under the circumstances. It views things calmly and evidently regards the future more how to live in peace and insure prosperity, than how to cherish and gratify resentments. At present it thinks the Southern people had better attend to the work of reconstruction and make the best of it; after that politics and party organization. Were it not for the leadership of Stevens, Butler, Ashley and that sort, it would not be disinclined to accept at once the Republican party—seeing that its principles are not particularly objectionable. But in view of this leadership it is for organizing another party—with the extremes out—composed of all who can agree, North and South, under the name "National Union" or "National Republican," or any other.

Senator Cameron is understood to have the Presidency on the brain; and herein we have the explanation of the sharp bargains he drove with Andrew Johnson for the offices, whereby he pretty effectually unhorsed nearly the entire Pennsylvania delegation. We are assured if the vote of the Keystone State is not cast for Simon in the next Presidential Convention, it will not be because he has not laid himself out for it, fully resolved to play high to carry his point. The Senator and "the man at the other end of the avenue" are said to be on good terms. Thaddeus Stevens and Judge Kelley are understood not to be entirely neutral, nor as yet pronounced supporters of Mr. Cameron's modest pretensions. Though Mr. Johnson was unable to help Simon to the lion's share of the offices, it is not so clear how he can assist him further in his Presidential aspirations.

Well-informed foreign correspondents say a good many Englishmen are so disgusted with the Russian Cession that they do not destiate to declare themselves in favor of letting the territory of the Hudson's Bay Company and even Canada go, if the United States will only pay anything decent for them. Spite the forced serenity of the British press, Mr. Bull is quite unable, as yet, to understand the business. And the secresy in which it was managed; that is the mortifying part of the affair. When questioned, Lord Stanley was forced to declare he knew nothing about it, but had to telegraph to Washington for particulars. She question occurs to the English mind—what is going to turn up next? America makes slight show in the Paris Exhibition, says a London letter, but she can frighten England from her propriety by a simple stroke of the pen.

It may be a poor country that we have just agreed to buy, and it may be a poor bargain to pay $7,000,000 for it; but that would not be a sufficient excuse for half of the poor arguments that have been raised against the transaction. We call it poor argument, to allege that it is a cold country, an unexplored, a thinly peopled, a distant country, a country of savages, a country of no known value for purposes of residence or business.

The same statements might have been made, and probably were made hundreds of times, less than a century ago, about Western Pennsylvania. This was an almost unknown land, that to the imagination appeared farther off from the old settlements, than the Western slope of the Rocky Mountains now does. It was inhabited by a more savage race than the Esquemaux, whose very name, associated with the then worst horrors of Braddock's Depot, sounded terrible to the Eastern settlements. Yet here we live, in a rich, productive, pleasant country, with vast resources of mineral wealth, extensive manufactures, and a productive agriculture, within a day's ride of any of the great Atlantic seaports, and with Indians scarcely more plenty than Esquemaux. Perhaps our new purchase—Lincoln, shall it be called?—may turn out in some respects as well.

The Albany *Journal*, without denying the charge of corruption brought against the Legislature, maintains it should not, even if true, be made by Republican journals. Whereupon the New York *Times* remarks, if this is the discipline that is to prevail, "then the office of a party organ is a post much more contemptable than any honorable man ought to be asked or expected to fill." The *Tribune*, backed by the Union League, reverses the position; because the charge is true it holds all the more pressing is the duty to expose corruption, and call on the people to apply the remedy. Otherwise the party will be made to bear the odium that properly attaches to the corruptionists. Which is the better organ, the journal that denounces, or the one that seeks to hide corruption? At Harrisburg, as at Albany, there is a Republican journal which would stifle expression—thus give perpetual license to the corruptionists—and make the party bear the odium. Without a word of rebuke for those who sell their votes, it manifests great concern for the "honest men" who will suffer from a repetition of the charge. Rogues, ever since the world began, have attempted to hide behind honest men—a trick they will avail themselves of just as long as the hush policy can be enforced. But honest men have nothing to fear from an exposure of corruption in the Legislature, and the interest which the rogues manifest for them is the evidence of how much they fear their own rascality will be exposed. The time has come, however, for the sifting process, and it is to be hoped that at least a majority of the rogues will, in future, be compelled to remain outside the State Capitol.

THE PURITANS.

In noticing the invidious use of the terms Puritan and Plymouth-rock, by the Pittsburgh *Post*, we understood them to be so used, as representatives of political ideas. We proceeded upon that supposition, the article of the *Post* being a mere tirade against Thad. Stevens and the Republican party. But by its Saturday's issue, we discover that we were entirely mistaken, and that the terms were used in their ecclesiastical significancy. In other words, that while the *Post's* article was in form a terrific onslaught on Thad. Stevens, its sharpest sting, couched in the epithets referred to, was meant to be given to New England theology. What one took to be democratic railing was nothing but a catholic feature in orthodoxy, which concludes with the following remarkable confession of faith:

"We have more respect for the Mormons who only transgress a portion of the decalogue, than we have for the religion of New England which strikes at the whole christian system, by denying the second person of the Trinity."

We decline to discuss, with the *Post*, the subject of New England theology, yet we are free to admit that the above confession indicates rather strength of faith than sound morals.

But we must give it some information about the Puritans. Hume makes three classes of them. First, Puritans of the State. Second, Puritans of the church, and third, Puritans of doctrine. The first were those who stood by the laws of the land in opposition to the arbitrary power of the king. A large proportion of these were the staunchest church men. The second class were those who discarded many of the ceremonies and rites of the English church, and the third were those who were distinguished for their profession of the earliest Reformers. Mr. Hume, who cannot be suspected of partiality to such people, says, "they held the highest principles of civil liberty." One of their most able and decided opponents concentrated all the bitterness of his hostility to them in one brief declaration, charging them with holding "vile republican principles." Another writer says, "their large views of civil government were sometimes imputed to them as a crime, by their courtly adversaries." It was the correspondence of *political* principles that give the Puritans of England the name of Republicans, and it is the same, that secures to Republicans now the name of Puritans.

Mr. Hume further says of them, that "the precious spark of liberty was kindled and preserved by the Puritans alone, and it was to this sect that the English owe the whole freedom of their constitution." And it is to the same hereditary spirit, that New England is indebted for the honor of having resisted tyranny in the American revolution. And the opposition of all sorts of aristocrats, in church and State, has been directed against them, because, as Hallam, the philosophic historian, says of the Puritans, "*they grounded the legitimacy of government on the Republican principle of popular consent.*"

It is easy, therefore, to see why the term Puritan should, to certain kinds of modern politicians, be as odious as the term Republican was in the days of Laud and the Charleses. In its purely political significancy—to say nothing of the religious antipathy of the *Post*—Puritanism is a hated idea by all abettors of slavery. No papers have rung the changes on the name so constantly as the Richmond papers did during the rebellion and since. If they have any rivals they are such papers as the New York *Freeman's Journal* and those of similar proclivities. But the noble history of the name, as the representative of political ideas, makes it easy for the loyal Republican Union party to bear it. Meant to be ignominious by those who know nothing about its real significancy, it is in fact an honorable testimony to the Republican party.

NON-INTERVENTION.

The proposals lately made in the United States Senate, to offer some sort of mediation between Prussia and France, was disposed of in a way entirely accordant with the judgment of the country. The interposition of our Government, by advice or otherwise, in the affairs of other nations is not favored by American public sentiment. Especially is it deprecated, when foreign nations are assuming toward each other the attitude of hostility, threatening violent collision. It has been the traditionary policy of our nation to keep clear of all such complications. Our commercial relations with foreign nations involve no political alliance that would draw us into their quarrels.

Washington's paternal counsel has had a mighty influence in forming and maintaining the public sentiment of the American people on this subject. And where there has been any indication of a wish to depart from this wise and honorable course, it has sprung from a source where the traditions of the country and the name of Washington had less than the averave measure of reverence. Although there may not be now, in our strength, the same danger to be apprehended from complication with the policies of foreign nations that there was in our earlier history, yet the advice of Washington on this subject is still susceptible of a strict application, with valuable results, to our international relations. And we take the occasion to recommend to the rising generation of our countrymen—and we might embrace also many of our public men—that they read the Farewell Address of Washington from beginning to end. Not only on this subject, but on almost all political questions, connected with the welfare of the Republic, that address exhibits the wonderful sagacity, pure patriotism and deep political wisdom of the Father of his country.

The true method, for us, of exerting an influence among the nations, is not by direct and formal endeavors to control them, but as we have done hitherto, by just and honorable measures for promoting peace, order, intelligence, and a sound morality among ourselves. Silent example is the best system of propagandism, if we desire that. And public opinion, accompanied with its results here, in favor of liberty and right, will do more to prevent wrong there, than any direct interposition would accomplish.

The case may, perhaps, be different with a nation in our immediate vicinity. Mexico on our borders has been the scene of events and projects evidently designed to affect the interests of the United States. That menace has been parried and the United States is now in a condition to be indifferent to it. We might justly let the internal strifes of that country continue. But the savage character that the contest has assumed, disgraceful to the human race, might justify the interposing of something more than advice and request, to stop the barbarities rapidly increasing in the conflict. As between tribes of Indians, in our own borders, so between parties on our frontiers, the arm of power might interpose in the interests of humanity.

OUR BONDS ABROAD.

Why a war in Europe should cause any permanent decline in American securities there, we are unable to imagine. We think we can see many reasons for the belief that they will be in greater demand and consequently bear a higher price. The agitation and danger incident to a European war, would make investments in this country the more desirable. And when the rate of interest here is so much more than the best loans there, the two great conditions, safety and good interest, are offered by American securities, and there is little probability that any investments made here will be disturbed, while these remain unchanged. If any national loan is proposed, for war purposes, by either of the belligerents, it will not be on terms so eligible as ours, either for safety or for rate of interest. And it is not at all likely that the private holders of our securities will exchange them for the sake of loaning their money to their own Governments under conditions decidedly less advantageous.

Besides this view of the case, we must take into account the probable consequences of such a disturbance as is expected, on all kinds of business in this country and on the sea, increasing our revenues and giving additional value to our securities. Whatever may be the effect for the short period of suspense and alarm incident to the novelty of the situation, we are persuaded that the event will prove the correctness of our position.

EO! FOR A FARM.

The difficulty that has so long existed about employment and wages is suggestive of considerations worthy of being seriously and carefully weighed by all persons connected with them. This difficulty is not local and limited. The same is visible in all parts of the country where manufactures are established, and in all kinds of manufactures. A common effect leads us to imagine a common cause. But it is not our purpose, in this article, to inquire after the cause, nor to appropriate the blame to either party, nor to propose a plan of adjustment by which work may be resumed, and the difficulty for the present obviated. All we design is to offer respectfully a suggestion or two to workmen.

Farming is a business that certainly is not overdone. Workmen in the great manufacturing establishments do not generally expect to continue in that employment till old age. They look forward to having a home of their own, and a sufficiency of land to furnish them employment and subsistence in their days of declining strength. Hundreds have gone from the severer toils of mills, factories, and the streets and warehouses of cities, o the quiet and comparative ease of a pleasant little farm, where each is his own capitalist, his own employer, his own boss, and his own workman—a truly independent race, each with his family about him engaged in the same employments, their children going to the same schools, and themselves resorting on the day of rest to the same places of worship.

In the existing condition of business, which is likely to continue, the interests of manufacturers are peculiarly subject to changes. Difficulties like the present are liable to occur at any time. The uncertainty of steady employment is not counterbalanced by high wages when employed, even if one was always sure of that. The extraordinary stimulus given to some kind of manufactures during the war, may have extended them to a degree that it will be impossible to keep up in peace. It is therefore but the suggestion of common prudence that some of the labor should be seeking other kinds of employment. It may be that the former will handle less money than the workman in a mill, but yet he may have more at the end of the year. And, besides, there is the certainty, the independence, the freedom from capitalists and from Trades' Unions, from noise and dirt.

What we advise is this, that on resuming work, a fixed and unalterable resolve of the strictest economy be made, and that wages may as soon as possible be used in purchasing a farm and home.

PLYMOUTH ROCK AMERICANS.

Ever since the rebellion began, a certain class of politicians, journals and speakers have "improved the occasion," to indulge in sneers at everything that savors of New England. For reasons not difficult to divine, the Pittsburgh *Post* is in the habit of indulging, as it did most gratuitously yesterday morning, this ill-natured and ill advised antipathy. Old England and New England seem to stand about upon a par, in its friendly regards, or, if there is a preference, the invidious and contemptuous phrase of the *Post's* columns falls less frequently on regal old England than on Puritan New England.

We have the impression that Plymouth-rock, Puritan, Yankee, are terms too closely associated with American history and American pride, to be in any danger of being rendered odious or ridiculous, by any set of writers or speakers, of whatever nativity, politics or religion they may be. They may, therefore, as well relinquish the effort in despair, since the ideas represented by these terms are embedded in the true American mind, of every race, party and sect. The *Post* especially—so keen, so morbidly sensitive, as to see "flings at foreigners" where there are none, might draw less freely on its own magazine of jibes and sneers at Plymouth-rock, Puritans, and other Yankee notions and ideas.

THE PROPOSED RAILROAD CONVENTION.

The Somerset *Herald*, of this week, refers as follows to some suggestions of ours as to the proposed Railroad Convention. We desire to bring conspicuously before our citizens the following from the *Herald*, and to express the hope they will take the subject into consideration:

"The Pittsburgh Commercial, of the 19th inst., copies and approves the suggestions contained in our article of last week relative to the propriety of calling a Railroad Convention, and trusts that we will take the necessary preliminary labor to secure concerted action. If our cotemporary will reflect for a moment upon our isolated position and lack of speedy communication with the outside world, he will be at once struck with the impracticability of his suggestion. Speedy action is required if our idea of laying a matured bill before the forthcoming political conventions be adopted. We are willing to take any amount of labor in the case, but we submit, that as the convention cannot be held here, the call should issue from some more accessible point, and from some preliminary meeting, or organized official body, but the Mayor of Pittsburgh, the Board of Trade, or the Senators from Allegheny county—the recognized Free Railroad men—call a meeting of the citizens of that city, and that the meeting let an invitation issue for a convention to be held in the city of Pittsburgh on a designated day and our word for it the Southern and Western Pennsylvania at least will be fully represented. If the balance of the State will participate, well and good; if not, we have the strength, if concentrated, with the assistance of a well defined sentiment in the Middle, Eastern and Northern Pennsylvania to compel at the next session of the Legislature any just and equitable bill that may be matured."

Who Will Control the Negro Vote in the South?

We have been permitted to see a letter from an intelligent colored man in Alabama, which presents views on the question of the negro vote at the South, which it may be well for Northern men to look in the face. We make a few extracts:

"You ask 'How will the negro vote?' I do not profess to speak as an oracle or prophet, but I can give you the result of my observations during a Southern residence of two years.

"I do not wish to alarm you when I say that the South will control the negro vote. Northern men will control it by the adoption of the Reconstruction bill, and by a wide departure from her former habits and customs respecting the colored man. To control it in any *other* way is among the things impossible. In the Southern efforts to conciliate the freedmen you cannot have failed to notice that their *final efforts* in that direction have been counterfeited by the *extreme* Democratic principles of the *extreme* Northern *Radicals*. Vide Wade Hampton's speech at the convention of black and white men at Columbia, S. C. Said he, 'are we not *citizens* of the same State?' *i. e.* 'are we not *men* and brothers?'

* * * *

"The situation is just this: The Reconstruction bill has cut off all hopes from any source save that of treating the black man as a man, and the bitterest rebel acknowledges the necessity of cutting loose from former ideas and prejudices, and of entering upon a new and higher civilization. We are about to witness another verification of the old proverb that '*extremes often meet.*' If the South, in the course of a few years, does not vie with the North in her efforts to befriend the black man, liberty, truth and reigns indicate nothing. Grant that they be *selfish* efforts, and yet the rule of cause and effect will regulate things. Every man wishes happiness and prosperity for himself and family, and he will recognize the man who gives him sympathy and aid. They may be fooled in the choice of candidates, but the man elected by their votes will have to be *uncommonly* circumspect that upright if he would desire a second election. They will be compelled to take the 'lesser of two evils' for some time to come in the matter of elections. I speak in reference to municipal and State affairs. 'There are *some good*,' but not *all*. They must support the *least* obnoxious man. As to the 'Union party' of the South, it is a myth.

"The *white* vote will not be a *unit*. Aside from the question of Unionism, some man will be found at every election, who from his desire for office, will promise colored voters his services if they will support him. These, with his white friends, will be certain to put him in office. He will have to make his promises good if he expects or desires a *re*-election.

"There is no evidence that colored men are going to clamor for office. The universal desire among them is for light, more light. They know they are ignorant, and I regard that as a hopeful sign.

"In a Presidential election, I firmly believe, they would support any Northern man from Charles Sumner to Valiandigham."

CONSOLIDATION.

Letters from the People.

Allegheny, April 17, 1867.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

As no one seems to think worth while to answer the gentleman who has been pounding away at consolidation in the papers, I have a notion to give him a turn myself. He might save himself much trouble if he would ask some one else besides the *officers and contractors*, how Allegheny will vote on the question. *Let me tell him, consolidation is bound to carry on this side of the river*, and some people had better be getting from under, or they'll find themselves run over. They tried to stop the bill in the Legislature because they were afraid to trust us to vote on it, but that cat wouldn't jump. They say consolidation will raise our taxes, but they want to have a new county. How much taxes will it cost to build a new Court House and pay a new set of judges, officers, jailors, &c.? As I do not expect to be either a judge, or sheriff, or jailor, or build the new Court House, I am opposed to a new county, and in favor of consolidation. About taxes, I know it costs a good many of us more money to pay *toll over the bridge* than it takes to pay our taxes. The owners of the old bridge may vote against consolidation, but the crossers over have the majority.

P. S.—Who has to pay the expenses of councilmen to Harrisburg?

ALLEGHENY NUMBER 2.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

A writer in one of your cotemporaries lays much stress on the idea that the proposed consolidation is something which originated in Pittsburgh, and is intended for the special benefit of that locality. Will you please inform him that the "Board of Trade" is composed of citizens residing in all the cities, boroughs and districts intended to be consolidated, and that probably more of them reside in Allegheny than in any other locality? The report of the committee of the Board, published recently, is signed by four from Allegheny, one from Birmingham, one from Mount Washington, and only one from Pittsburgh. In supposing this question is to be decided by mere vituperation of the Board of Trade, is about as great a mistake as the same writer makes when he assumes that the citizens of Allegheny agree with him. Undoubtedly there are men in Allegheny who oppose consolidation now, but as they consider the question in all its bearings, the number will be greatly lessened before fall. I believe if the vote were taken to-morrow, a majority would be found in favor of consolidation. My information on this subject is a tax-payer of Allegheny, and a man of good judgment, who "knows that whereof he affirms." X. Y. Z.

WHAT PITTSBURGH MUST COMPETE WITH.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The following is an exact copy of a letter received fr m a very large and substantial house in Chicago, ane is worthy the consideration of the operatives of our mills and commended to the public by mine:

GENTLEMEN—It may interest you to know the prices of Refined Iron, offered me from store, New York, April 22d. I add forty cents per one hundred pounds freight by canal and lake, and figure on one hundred pounds laid down in Chicago.

Pittsburgh, to meet these prices, must sell as follows, adding freight to Chicago at forty-five cents per one hundred pounds:

	New York.	Pittsburgh.
Bar Iron, ⅜ to 4⅞ to 1..	$4 64	$4 19
" 1 to 3 inch.....	4 64	4 19
" 1⅛ to 2⅞.....	4 64	4 19
Horse Shoe, 3 to 4 inch..	5 04	4 59
⅞, ¾ and ⅝ round and sq'r.	4 94	4 49
½ " "	5 04	4 59
⅜ and 9-16 " "	4 87	4 42
7-16 and 7-16 " "	5 08	4 63
6-16 " "	5 33	5 08
5-16 " "	5 98	5 53
4-16 " "	7 08	6 43
Hoop, No. 20.....	6 87	6 42
" No. 22.....	7 37	6 92

And so on through other sizes. You will see that bar iron costs about six per cent. less than four and a half cents. Pittsburgh bar iron, or other than bar iron the includes one to six by three-eighths to one, and the classifications on various sizes makes a large difference in favor of New York. On some sizes of iron you will notice the difference as compared with Pittsburgh four and a half cent rates, is very heavy; for example, five-eighths, three quarters and seven-eighths round and square, twelve per cent., and nearly greater on some of the smaller sizes, and on small hoops.

New York beats Philadelphia all to pieces now, and as navigation is opened, New York has a chance at the lake trade, for which I pay the operatives one per hundred pounds freight, probably at thirty-three or thirty-five cents. We pay fifty-five cents from Philadelphia and sixty cents from Troy, all rail, and thirty-three cents from Ohio. Freights are entirely too high from Pittsburgh, and is so much tax on your trade in favor of other points.

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Iron Master.

Independent Order of Good Templars.

In 1851, this Temperance organization, now so popular and so wide-spread, had an obscure origin in one of the small towns in Western New York. For a few years after it was instituted little was heard of the society, but for the past twelve years its progress has been steadily onward, until it now has Grand Lodges in all the States of the Union, but five; also in all the British Provinces, with upwards of one million members all pledged to total abstinence and prohibition. As an instance of the growth of the Order, we may mention that in 1863 there were less than thirty Lodges or societies in all Pennsylvania; now there are three hundred of these Lodges in this Commonwealth, and we are informed by one of the Grand Lodge officials that these are but six counties at present in our State, without any Lodges, and to these the Grand Lodge lecturers have been directed to go, and organize Lodges in each of them at once, so that at the annual session of the Grand Lodge, which is to be held in Allegheny City, commencing on June 13th, the Grand Lodge officers may be able to report the Order established in every county. Rapid as has been the increase of the Order in Pennsylvania, it has been equally successful in other States, from Maine to California. In Michigan there are four hundred Lodges!

The session of the Grand Lodge, to come off as stated, will call together not less than five hundred delegates from the various Lodges of the State, and doubtless a portion of the time will be devoted to public meetings in the Halls and churches when the orators of the Order will have an opportunity of addressing the public generally. Every subordinate Lodge is entitled to send one representative to the Grand Lodge. Every Lodge having one hundred members on the 30th of April, is entitled to send two representatives, and one for each additional fifty members. The coming Grand Lodge session, owing to the great increase of the Order during the past year, will be one of great importance, and at the proper time full reports of the proceedings will appear in the Commercial.

The Supreme Court.

In the Supreme Court, the case of the Pittsburgh and Connellsville Railroad against the Mayor and City of Baltimore, has been fixed for a hearing on Monday, May 6th, immediately after the hearing of the case of Virginia against the State of West Virginia. This latter case involves the right of West Virginia to the counties of Jefferson and Berkley. Senator Johnson is retained for West Virginia. The question whether Virginia is a State of the Union will be involved in the case, and will be argued at length, for if she is not judicially recognized as a State she is powerless to claim jurisdiction over any portion of her former territory now claimed by West Virginia.

It seems generally conceded that Mr. Beckwith, the Chief Commissioner for the United States to the Paris Exposition, is about as bad an official mistake as can well be imagined. He may mean well enough, but he is in the unfortunate situation of a man who does not know whether it would be more to his credit to resign or to hold on and complete the dead failure he has thus far made. The foundation of Mr. Bigelow's fault, in indicating Mr. Beckwith for the position, was the fact that Mr. Beckwith had lived for twenty years in France, and had lost pretty nearly all the American characteristics and sympathies he ever had. A live, energetic Yankee, fresh from home and brimfull of national enthusiasm, would have far better represented the interests of the country and have done us, as a people, infinitely more credit.

Among the universal miscellany of attraction which crystalizes about the great Exposition, the drinking saloons peculiar to different nationalities receive a large share of attention and patronage. The special fancy among the fast young gentlemen of Paris is Messrs. Spier and Pond's Australian counter, where convivial beverages and other refreshments are served by a bevy of pretty English bar maids. A frightful amount of flirtation is carried on with these fair damsels, who, say a correspondent, will get along very well "when they have learned that a franc and a half is not one and sixpence, and that when a Frenchman asks for Madeira he means Sherry."

A dramatic event of unusual interest has lately taken place in London. Mrs. Scott Siddons, grand-daughter of the famous actress, Mrs. Siddons, has made her appearance as an actress at the Haymarket Theater in "As You Like It."

GENERAL INTELLIGENCE.

Under a law of the State an experimental railway track on the elevated principle, is to be constructed for half a mile in Greenwich street, New York. Should it prove successful in the estimation of commissioners the company are authorized to extend the track to Harlem. The power is stationary and gives under ground. The first half mile is to be built in one year, and the line to Harlem—if at all—in five years.

A queer item of information came out in the proceedings of the Cincinnati Board of Health lately. There are penned up in houses, within the corporate limits of Cincinnati, five hundred and eighty-one cows.

The story of the Selma, Ala., Bank robbery turns out a ruse to cover an extensive swindle. The Bank was cleaned out by cotton speculations. The Government loses $7,000 deposited by the Collector of Taxes. Arrests have been made.

The Odd Fellows of Chicago, on Friday next by a grand procession, will celebrate the forty-eighth anniversary of the introduction of their order into this country. After the procession they will repair to Rose Hill Cemetery, and lay the corner-stone of the Odd Fellows' Monument.

A gentleman named Reverend J. C. White, undertook to lecture on Romanism in Quincy, Illinois, Wednesday night, but the hall was taken possession of by the Catholics, and upon his attempting to speak he was hustled out of the hall, and barely escaped lynching. At least two thousand persons were present, inside and outside of the hall, armed with clubs, stones, and other missiles. An appeal was made to the Mayor, but he showered that the people had rights as well as the speaker.

Six thousand dogs have been killed in Chicago since the dog war commenced, and the daily slaughter will add largely to that number.

The corner stone of a magnificent Jewish Temple was laid in Louisville, Wednesday, with imposing ceremonies, attended by an enormous crowd of spectators. The corner stone had beside the day's date, "Anno Domino, 1867," an acknowledgment of the Christian Era. Rabbi Wise, of Cincinnati, was the orator of the occasion.

A case involving the question of international law, arising in consequence of proceedings relative to the operations of Confederate pirates during the war, has been already begun at Toronto, Canada. The pirate Florida captured the mail steamer Electric Spark, and with her some thousands of dollars worth of postage stamps, which were taken to Liverpool and thence to Canada, with the intention of bringing them into this country for sale. Our Government got an injunction out, stopping the sale. The Court in Toronto was applied to to deny the injunction. A solicitor of the Postoffice Department went to Toronto and has gained a favorable advantage. It is thought the case may go to the House of Lords.

A St. Louis letter letter says: "Merchants still declare this to be the dullest season for many a year. The wholesale houses have none of them done their usual amount of trade. The Southern trade bubble has well nigh played out, in fact, all failures of the season are mainly attributable to Southern trade. The Montana trade and North Missouri trade is undoubtedly there are men in Allegheny who oppose consolidation now, but as they consider the question in all its bearings, the number will be greatly lessened before fall. I believe if the vote were taken to-morrow, a majority would be found in favor of consolidation. My information on this subject is a tax-payer of Allegheny, and a man of good judgment, who "knows that whereof he affirms." X. Y. Z.

WHAT PITTSBURGH MUST COMPETE WITH.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial:

The following is an exact copy of a letter received fr m a very large and substantial house in Chicago, ane is worthy the consideration of the operatives of our mills and commended to the public by mine:

GENTLEMEN—It may interest you to know the prices of Refined Iron, offered me from store, New York, April 22d. I add forty cents per one hundred pounds freight by canal and lake, and figure on one hundred pounds laid down in Chicago.

Pittsburgh, to meet these prices, must sell as follows, adding freight to Chicago at forty-five cents per one hundred pounds:

	New York.	Pittsburgh.
Bar Iron, ⅜ to 4⅞ to 1..	$4 64	$4 19
" 1 to 3 inch.....	4 64	4 19
" 1⅛ to 2⅞.....	4 64	4 19
Horse Shoe, 3 to 4 inch..	5 04	4 59
⅞, ¾ and ⅝ round and sq'r.	4 94	4 49
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Iron Master.

PERSONAL.

—While Parepa was in New Haven, last week, she went one evening to the depot to meet her husband, who was to arrive soon after dark, and had the driver bring him to her carriage, but not make known her presence. Seeing a lady occupant, Rosa took the opposite seat, and, like a model husband, paid no attention to the sly hints of the fleet and coy address of his female companion. Soon she boldly seated herself by his side, but he did not discover the joke till her merry laugh rang out at his affrighted and virtuous struggle to escape her caresses.

—On Thursday evening last, at the Church of the Ascension, in New York, Mr. Ambrose C. Kingsland, Jr., son of ex-Mayor Kingsland, was married to Miss Catharine, daughter of Wm. H. Aspinwall, Esq. This was one of the most brilliant weddings of the season. The reception took place Friday evening, at the residence of the bride's father, corner of Union square place and Tenth street. The doors were canopied to the curb-stone, while rich carpets protected the feet of the fair ones as they descended from the carriages.

—The following words are attributed to Marshal Niel, Minister of War: "Let me know the day when the Emperor Napoleon wishes to have five hundred thousand men on the Eastern frontier, and they shall be there."

—John Kirwan, a Fenian Head Center, who was under arrest in Dublin and confined in the Hospital, escaped on the 10th inst. He had been very closely watched, but the officer in charge having left him for a moment, Kirwan bolted, and was seen no more.

—The Hon. DeWitt C. Littlejohn, a distinguished artisan of Oswego, has determined to remove to Buffalo.

—Mrs. Nancy Rotch died at New Bedford, Mass., on Thursday last, in the ninety-first year of her age. She was the widow of Francis Rotch, Esq., one of the owners of the ship Dartmouth, celebrated as the vessel which brought into Boston harbor the famous "poisonous herb" which so excited the wrath of the people of the then colony, and which the Mohawks, "known as the "Boston Tea Party," in the year 1773, threw into the salt water.

—A letter dated Paris, April 12th, says: Yesterday, the Emperor reviewed the troops now in Paris, and distributed decorations and military medals to officers, under-officers and soldiers. He looks pale and nervous; they continue to say he is in bad will. The Prince Imperial is really still very feeble, though improving. He has gone through a painful surgical operation, and it is reported that his legs still requires splints. The Empress is seriously unhappy over the prolonged ailments of the Prince Imperial.

—The New York *Times* corrects the statement of the *World* that Mr. Seward has "kept a private diary during the last six years," and adds: "We have heard it said that Mr. Seward, when he first became part of Mr. Lincoln's Administration began such a diary, with the purpose to make it a record of all the private deliberations, decisions, opinions, intrigues, &c., of the times; but that, after a brief trial, gave it up from a conviction that it would of necessity be of no personal advantage would, consist so largely of the record of his own participation in public affairs, as to be unduly and offensively egotistical."

—Mr. Dana's new evening paper in New York has been postponed till September. A contemporary remarks very truly that the day is gone when mere party papers can succeed, or a first class journal can be established except through great perseverance, many trials and excellent judgment.

—The Newark, New Jersey, *Journal* advocates the nomination of George Peabody for the Presidency. Mr. Peabody is an enterprising merchant and a very excellent man, but he has got more than his fortune in his profits last year amounted to $1,276,759 92, and that after making the largest deductions that the income tax was $256,951 79. If, R. Claflin, the next wealthiest merchant in the trade, has not yet been heard from.

—A Washington dispatch says: Governor Cummings, of Colorado, and Assessor elect of the Fourth District of Pennsylvania, is undecided whether to give up the Governorship and take the Revenue office. He is urged by his friends in Colorado to hold on to the Governor's office, and Mr. Cummings is inclined to do so. He has gone to Philadelphia to look up the affairs of the Assessorship, where he will determine what course to pursue in a day or two. It is said the contest will be a great struggle, similar to the bony and the head of the rattlesnake, the most fierce, time alone will be compelled to give nourishment to the child, he throws into convulsions.

—The workingmen in New York who have been prominent in the strike movement, are talking of establishing a co-operative workshop, on a grand scale, with a view of procuring the necessaries of life at cost price. All mechanics and laborers are to have the privilege of joining it and participating in its benefits.

The agents of the Great Eastern steamship deny that the ship is not coming back to New York. They say she has already a large number of passengers engaged for her next trip to Europe, and they might have added with plenty of room for more.

The cash resources of the New York banks (specie and legal-tenders), at this time (as per statement to $87,098,151, against $220,854,435 of demanded liabilities, circulation and deposits; the surplus above the required reserve being $16,854,542. The cash resources of the Philadelphia banks are $21,719,849, against $77,758,858 of demanded liabilities; the surplus above the required reserve being reduced to $7,227,481.

The newest fashion in upholstery in Paris is to have the dining-room chairs covered with dark green cloth, the walls hung with dark colored velvet paper or clo